



AN INSURGENT BAND OF BULGARIANS IN MACEDONIA.

PICTURES FROM THE BALKANS

By JOHN FOSTER FRASER

With Four Full-page Plates

POPULAR EDITION

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PREFACE TO THE SIXTH EDITION

My revered father Dr Bhagavan Das, the author of a large number of learned works on philosophy and religion, had himself always regarded "Essential Unity Of All Religions" as his *magnus opus*. It would be interesting to recall the history of this book. In December 1930 at a conference in Banaras, he read a paper on "The Unity of Asiatic Thought". This he expanded and elaborated in edition after edition as "Essential Unity Of All Religions". The second edition of the book, published in 1939, caught the eye of an American gentleman who actually reprinted it as my father would not keep any copyright in his books, and distributed nearly 1500 copies of it, free of all costs, in many countries of the world.

The fifth edition was published by the Theosophical Publishing House of Madras in 1955. My father passed away in September 1958, and was indeed happy that this very greatly enlarged and expanded edition of his original work, was able to see the light of day before he himself left the stage. So far as I am concerned, I must confess that I was always amazed at the wide intellectual interests of my father, and of the hard work that he was able to put in, day after day, despite advancing years, to produce his

great works He never used a secretary, he never dictated anything to anybody He did everything single-handed, himself There was no book in his large library that he himself had not read and annotated He was up-to-date in all branches of knowledge He read and wrote incessantly

He was a very careful man, and for fear lest his manuscripts should miscarry in the post despite all the care he took in packing and registering the precious documents, he would painfully make copies of his works in his own hand, however large these might be He attended to all his correspondence—and that was large enough—himself, and was willing to give the benefits of his deep thought to any persons—and they were also large in number—who came to consult him about their personal or intellectual difficulties

I am very grateful to the Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, its President and his colleagues and assistants for their great kindness and courtesy in offering to bring out this work on "Essential Unity Of All Religions" in a very special edition I have no doubt that the enthusiasm and the enterprise that characterise the Bhavan's good work in all directions, will enable them to make this book very widely read as it deserves to be It enshrines the labours and the ideals of a great scholar and thinker, and I personally very strongly and sincerely feel that the world will be the richer and better if it could understand him, and accept his suggestions for the solution

of the problems that are troubling mankind today

It is my earnest hope and prayer that my father's work may live, and that it will be a source of inspiration to many to act and think along right lines for the welfare of themselves and human society as a whole

RAJ BHAVAN,
MUMBAI-6

SRI PRAKASA

October 2 /1960

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PREFACE TO THE FIFTH EDITION

In the winter of 1917-1918, this writer went to South India with some members of his family on pilgrimage He halted at Adyar, Madras, for a few days, and was kindly put up there by "Mother A B ", as all Theosophists in India had begun affectionately to call Mrs (later Dr) Annie Besant, President of Theosophical Society He went on with his party to Rāmēshvaram, visiting on way thereto, all the great Temples whose cyclopean stone-work almost rivals that of Ancient Egypt, as travellers who have seen both say

Thirty-five years later, in March 1954, I had to go to Madras, again, for some personal reasons There, in evenings, I went out with friends for drives on the Marina, said to be one of the finest Along one side of the broad road, I saw, at intervals, life-size bronze statues, which, I was told, were, some, of former British Governors, others, of famous Indians, two or three living One was of Dr Annie Besant We stopped the car, I got down and had a close look at the fine statue I was told that in 1936, three years after she passed away (on 20th September 1933), public-spirited citizens of Madras, who knew, and were grateful for, what she had done for India generally and Madras specially, subscribed needed

money, had statue made, and requested the Mayor and Corporation of the City to take charge of it and set it up in some appropriate place They gladly did so, on the Marina, and, in addition, named that quarter of the city as Besant Nagar, i.e., Besant Town Statue is flood-lighted at night by Corporation

Work that A B did, from 1893 to 1933, is an important part of history of India Mme H P Blavatsky and Col H. S Olcott started the work especially Col Olcott, by his annual tours and lectures in most of the larger towns, but it was she who first successfully induced materialism-ridden Indians, graduated in colleges established by British-Indian Government and regarding 'Hinduism' as a huge conglomerate of meaningless superstitious beliefs and practices, to think seriously whether there was any substance in their Ancestral Religion It certainly was, and continues to be, a mass of such absurdities among those not educated in the new way and also among vast masses of uneducated She induced the others, by explaining essentials of Sanātana Dharma, 'Eternal Religion', (mis-called 'Hinduism'), in the light of Theosophy, 'God-Wisdom' as identical with Brahma-Vidyā, Atma-Vidya, A-dvaita-Vēdānta, to feel respect for their Manus, Rshis, Rāmas, and Krshnas Thus she gave back to them their lost Self-Knowledge and self-respect, first indispensable step to Self-Government And she won respect for Sanātana Dharma, not

only among Indians, but also from all nations speaking English For, during months that were hot in India, she toured about incessantly in other countries, addressing large audiences on Theosophy Thus, knowledge of main ideas of Védānta, 'Final Knowledge', 'End and Culmination of Knowledge', 'Knowledge of Eternal and Universal Supreme Self', which was formerly confined to a handful of Orientalist scholars, was spread broadcast among masses Her work was helped greatly by the fact that local dailies everywhere reported her lectures fully, which were, thus, read by tens of thousands who could not hear them in person All this work indirectly helped the Indian People in their political struggle, by winning sympathy for them in those countries

Having thus prepared way, she joined Indian National Congress formally, and wrought nobly for India's Freedom from subjection to Britain, *not* for utter separation from it She did not live to see that Freedom achieved It was achieved, on 15th August, 1947, through self-sacrificing efforts of many patriots of all vocations, in all sections of the People, under leadership of Mahātmā Gāndhi These efforts were helped very greatly by World-conditions resulting from second World-War. A B's aim always was an Indo-British or British-Indian Commonwealth; and it will surely be a very great satisfaction to her soul in Heaven to know that, though India

has become a sovereign Independent Republic, the most friendly relations exist between the two countries This happy state is very largely the result of the life and work of Dr Annie Besant and Mahātmā Gāndhī¹

It has been said above that A B conveyed only main ideas of Vēdānta to English speaking peoples She could not well do more She derived her knowledge of them from English translations of a few main Scriptures She had to do, and did, so very much other work that she could not spare time to master Sanskr̥t, a difficult language, and study its many and voluminous Scriptures in original, also, to gather original texts from Scriptures, except Bible, of other religions, and arrange them side by side with Vēdānta Texts This work has been done in E U A R , because its compiler had much more leisure By thus proving the Essential Unity of All Religions, this work eliminates one Prime Cause of Discord between Peoples, viz , Religious Dissensions, which have caused great wars and massacres throughout the ages, and it thereby serves the immediate and exceedingly important practical purpose of helping to create Good-Will

¹ An excellent and comprehensive account of A.B's life and work in and for India is given in Shri Sri Prakāsa's book, *Annie Besant, as Woman and as Leader*, (pub 1941, by T.P.H., Adyar, new edition, pub 1954, by Bhāraṭiya Vidyā Bhavan, Bombay) Other aspects of her life which did not come within Shri Sri Prakāsa's experience are dealt with in present writer's *Annie Besant and the Changing World* (pub 1934; by T.P.H., Adyar)

among Men, whence that Peace on Earth, indispensable to Prosperity, for which every sane heart and head is hungering and thirsting all the world over

While in Madras, I had opportunity to settle details for new edition of this book, with Shri K S Krishnamūrti, public-spirited Manager of T.P H He had already arranged to bring out an edition of 2,000 copies I wanted greatly at least another thousand But T.P H could not afford the further sum required, Rs 7,000, because cost of everything, wages, paper, all printing material, especially lead, copper etc , and machinery, had increased enormously during and after second World War. I was fortunately able to secure the further sum from donors who choose to remain anonymous

I was able to stay in Madras for two months, and another two in beautiful Ootacamund,' deservedly called "Queen of Indian Hill-Stations" Twelve formes had been printed off when I started back for Banaras on 10th July, 1954

After this, work became much slower Galley-proofs, first page-proofs, final page-proofs, had to travel to and fro, some 1,200 miles each way, between Banāras and Madrās I had requested Manager, T P H , to print new edition, page-for-page, of previous If he could have done that, it would have saved me immense labour He could

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not Types of Vasantā Press were different, length of lines and number of them on each page smaller Previous edition comprised lx, 626 pages Present one has cx + 904 I have had to change all page headings, and all page-numbers in Indices This last was especially troublesome to 87-years old worn-out eyes Due to peculiar conditions, I have had to do all material-collecting and writing work single-handed, and have received no help from others, for this as well as for all my other books, except that mentioned in prefaces Many mistakes, of all sorts, have therefore been left behind inevitably in this edition Need I apologise for them? Page of *Agenda et Corrigenda* has been placed immediately after Contents, to enable readers to correct their copies before beginning to read Only such errors as seemed likely to cause misapprehension have been noted Minor ones, many, have not been.

Author's and Publishers' thanks are due, first and foremost, to readers whose appreciation has caused so many editions to be printed, next, to late Shri Jinarājaḍāsa, President of T S , scholar and linguist, and to the present President, Shri N Śrī Rām, for giving needed permission to T P H Author's thanks are due to Shri K S Krishnamūrti for undertaking, in difficult times of great financial stringency and soaring prices

of all things, a reprint of this large work His thanks are due also to staff of Vasanta Press for excellent work

It is a profound satisfaction to me that this book goes forth, with Foreword by the President of India, and Appreciations by the first and last Indian Governor-General of India, the Vice-President of India, and a Justice of the Hague International Court of Justice, High Symbol of Peace between Nations—goes forth to all countries on its Mission of Service of Man and therefore of God

"Shānti Sadan", Sigrā,

Banaras, India

Bhagavān Dās

Dīpavali,

(Festival of Lights)

14-11-1955

FOREWORD TO FIRST EDITION

(Abridged for this)

"The first World Conference on Education was held in San Francisco in July, 1923 Out of this Conference, the World Federation of Educational Associations was born The Constitution of the Federation provided the following article regarding Conferences: 'The World Conference shall meet in full session at such place and time as may be determined by the Directors; but a meeting of sections, one in Europe, one in America, and one in Asia, may be held in the intervening years "¹

First All-Asia Education Conference was held at Banaras, from 26th to 30th December, 1930, in Central Hindu College

Its Conveners desired the undersigned to write a paper on "Unity of Asiatic Thought". Subject took shape in his mind as "The Essential Unity of All Religions" Asiatic thought is deeply tinged with Religion' Asia has given birth to all

¹ Foreword to Report of The First All-Asia Education Conference

the great living religions He read his paper to the Conference on December 30, 1930

It has been revised and enlarged greatly by addition of many more parallel passages

If this book is so fortunate as to succeed in giving a taste to readers for discovering identities of thought in the great records of deepest human experience, in different languages, they will be able to see such identities at almost every step, in their further readings in such records, to their great joy, and to perpetual expansion of their sympathetic appreciation of others

Some learned scholars essay to prove that religions of later birth have copied from earlier The question, whether it is so, may have an intellectual historical interest for a learned few A far deeper, more vital, more human interest is possessed, and for all mankind, by the question, *why* they have done so, if they have copied from one another at all Is it not because there is only One Eternal Truth for all to copy? New generations are born from old, new nations grow out of colonies from old, new lamps are lighted from old, but the Life, the Light, the Might, which is only embodied in and expressed by ever-changing forms, is beyond them all, is common to them all, is originated by none of them, but originates them all It is an honour and a duty to copy—if what is copied is Truth, it were a dis-

grace to be original—if what is originated be False And there can be 'originality' in only the ' fleeting', therefore the False There can be no originality in Truth, for only the Eternal can be True, That only which never changes is really and strictly True, and minor truths, laws, and facts, which issue from It and constitute Its Nature, can only be, and ought to be, copied, in the large sense, diligently, hence, there can be no 'copy-right' in Truth. But there is no need to 'copy', in the small sense The River of Life is ever flowing, whoever feels thirsty can dip his bucket directly into it The same Truth wells up independently in the heart of Seer after Seer, Seeker after Seeker

While compiling this book and revising it again and again, the compiler has prayed constantly to the Great Masters of all the living Religions, Manu, Krshna, Vyāsa, Zoroaster, Moses, Isaiah, Laotse, Confucius, Buddha, Jina, Christ, Muhammad, Nānak, and the Spiritual Hierarchy to which they all belong, for guidance of his fingers in this effort to serve his fellow men and women of all countries

He should inform his readers that he has no knowledge of Arabic and but a smattering of Persian But he has a profound conviction that Truth is One and the same, and that all the Great Lovers of Mankind cannot but have said

the same true things He has, therefore, from time to time, asked Maulavī friends to give him texts from *Qurān* and *Hadīs* (sayings of Muhammad), parallel to Samskr̄t texts whose purport he placed before them. As *Qurān* is a comparatively small-sized book, and many good Maulavīs know it by heart, they were able to supply the needed texts without much difficulty, in some cases readily Persian and Urdū texts are, most of them, quoted from famous and venerated Sūfī-s, like Maulānā Rūm, Hāfiẓ, Jāmī, Sā'�ī, Omar Khayyām, Ghazālī, Mansūr, Chishtī, Wesālī, Shabistarī, Khusrau, Sarmad, Fariduddīn Attār. Much helpful information about Sūfism, and many valuable Arabic and Persian texts, have been found in the excellent, very learned and very thoughtful, books of Khān Sāhib Khājā Khān (of Madrās), viz., *Studies in Tasawwuf*, *The Secret of An-al-Haq*, *Philosophy of Islām*, and *The Wisdom of the Prophets*. Because of the present writer's ignorance of Arabic and slight acquaintance with Persian, there are probably many mistakes in roman transcript and English translations. Of course, he has based English renderings of Arabic texts on explanations kindly supplied by Maulavī friends, and on published translations regarded as standard. Still he may have failed to be accurate. Readers learned in Arabic and Persian will kindly correct. Original texts also have been reproduced here, in roman transcript, translations by themselves do

not command complete confidence ; and correction by learned readers will be made easier.

This compiler shall be very happy if friends learned in their respective Scriptures will approve this kind of work and will take it up themselves. Indeed, what is very much needed is that representatives of all the great living religions, large-hearted, broad-minded, copiously-informed, philanthropically-motived, may come together in a small and active Committee, and prepare a series of graded text-books of Universal Religion, expounding main points systematically, and illustrating them amply, for ready reference and obviation of doubts, with parallel passages, in original, from their several Scriptures. Such text-books would be authentic and authoritative, carry great weight with all communities, open their eyes to the utterly Common Essentials of all Religions, and be introduced and studied with pleasure and profit, in private homes as well as public educational institutions, by students and readers of various ages and capacities—to the sure and certain promotion of Peace on Earth and Good-Will among Men.

It will make him rejoice, and will repay him a thousandfold for such labor as he has been privileged to bestow upon this compilation, if Universities and other educational institutions make it their own ; and issue their own editions of it at cost-price, for

use of their students, after making improvements in it, by omissions or alterations, and, particularly, additions of many more parallel passages, (on the broad principles, as well as on details, of observances, rites and ceremonies, customs and practices), through learned scholars on their staff, who may be specially conversant with the subject, and who may form, in each University, a Committee of Representatives of the several Faiths, such as has been desired above—for where else should large hearts, broad minds, and richly stored intellects be found, if not in Universities? If a single such Committee could be formed, of members contributed by different Universities—that were best of all; its work would carry greatest weight and be most convincing.

AUM! ĀMĪN! AMEN!

Banāras,
17-11-1932.

BHAGAVĀN DĀS.

A LETTER TO READER

(REVISED)

AS

PREFACE TO SECOND EDITION

Dear Reader,

This book has been compiled by a would-be servant of his kind, and, withal, one who, all his life, has been drawn from within, by inclination, towards study and thinking, and dragged from without, by circumstances, towards 'executive and miscellaneous work' of various kinds. It is likely, therefore, to have such defects as are natural to work done in such conditions.

To many readers, many paragraphs, which link up texts quoted from scriptures, will probably give the feeling of a car running over a road paved with worn cobble-stones, unfamiliar Samskr̄t and Arabic-Persian words have been put in lavishly, side by side with English equivalents. Compiler can only plead, in exculpation, that the very purpose of the book is, by means of such juxtapositions of technical

words of the three most widespread living religions, Christianity, Islām, Vēdism (or 'Hinduism', including Buddhism and Jainism, which use many Samskr̥t words in common), to throw into relief, identities and similarities of their thoughts, aspirations, practices To those who are acquainted with all three languages, the collocations will, it is hoped, bring the pleasure of gatherings of friends from distant lands, nations, races, meeting and greeting each other with beaming smiles.

And there is much repetition But that is the way of Scriptures also! And this book is just a compilation of their utterances. Even the thread, on which those precious pearls are strung, is spun out of material supplied by those Scriptures themselves There is nothing new in the book, except interpretation of the Great Sayings. Which interpretation also is mostly only recalling of what has been forgotten It may be said, then, that when the spiritual food is good and wholesome, it is, indeed, worth while to repeat it, day after day, even like healthy, and pleasant, material food. Not too often, of course, nor in very large quantities; for 'then' it palls; nor taken too quickly, without leisurely, 'mastication', rumination, reflection, turning over, and over in mind, as food in mouth; for then it does not yield its full sweet taste, and is not duly assimilated.

There are, possibly, a few errors in translation of passages quoted from numerous Scriptures. Original texts, given in roman, will enable reader to rectify errors ; himself, or with help from friendly scholars. Versions are seldom literal. Such, word for word, done with help of a lexicon, often ruin the real sense. Principle followed here is that translator should absorb the 'spirit' of the original 'letter', and reproduce that 'spirit' faithfully in the 'letter' of the new language.

Renderings have all been done in blank verse ; rare exceptions in rhyme. 'Emotional' constituent of religion, now devoutness, then solemnity, again earnestness, or injunctional impressiveness, and, throughout, 'holiness', of scriptural utterances, most of which are themselves in verse or rhythmic prose—this can be more truly reflected in verse than in prose. This too has necessitated some deviation from literality. It is trusted, nevertheless, that *intention* of the original has *always* been correctly expressed. At times, version has been expanded a little, in light of original context of text actually quoted, very rarely, it has been abridged.

This whole attempt, to bring together parallel texts of several Scriptures, to prove identities and similarities, may, perhaps, fail to satisfy some critics, who would insist that minute differences should be at least as clearly brought out and emphasised as,

if not more than, resemblances. They would, no doubt, be quite right, from their own standpoint, and for purposes of accurate intellectual scholarship. This compiler's plea is that 'intellectual' interest is not the only interest of the book, that 'emotional' and 'practical' interests are of at least as great concern in it; that minute differences are already far too much stressed and acted on, to great harm of mankind; that resemblances are far too much ignored, to their great loss; that even intellectually, what varies with each, deserves to be regarded as superficial, *Non-Essential*, and what runs through and is common to all, to be regarded as Core and Essence; and that, therefore, essential points, on which all religions agree, should be given far more prominence than they have been hitherto, and be regarded as very Heart of all Religions, as very Core of Truth; on the 'democratic principle' of 'majority vote'; and for the very important and truly practical purpose of promoting mutual Good Understanding and Peace all over Earth.

There may be critics of another class; persons of strong belief, of sincere and intense faith. They naturally feel, each, his own particular creed to be unique, 'the one and only', the best. Wish to be thought 'original', 'the first', 'unprecedented', 'unrivalled', is a Nature-ordained and unavoidable preliminary, in all aspects of human life, instinctual,

nutritive, acquisitive, conjugal, military, financial, even literary and scientific It is so, in every course of action, where ambitious competition is involved. And where is it not ? All embodied life seems incessant love-and-war, both concentrated in 'jealousy', of great and small degree This is patent in the worldly 'life of pursuit' of things of the senses , it is also present, though ever diminishingly, in the 'life of renunciation ', until the very end We may therefore say that wish to be *individually* 'unique' is first of the two main aspects, Egoist-Altruist, of that Duality which runs through all Life and Nature ; as Wish to be *Universally* 'Unique', All-One, identified with All, is second. Preliminary *Egoist* wish, therefore, invades the regions of Religion also, and very powerfully ! 'My creed is best, and wholly original , different from all others; utterly new, nothing like it ever before; has borrowed nothing from any previous one; and is the final one too , there can never be another equally good, much less better'; even as 'My race, color, caste, sex, is best , I belong to a Chosen people, a divinely privileged caste, a fundamentally superior race, a solar or lunar dynasty , my nation rules the waves , my nation is *über alles*; my country has tallest sky-scrappers, finest biggest costliest buildings, largest purse, vastest hoard of gold, is superlative in everything ; on my empire Sun never sets ; I am

sprung directly from mouth of Brāhmā, I am son of Sun'; and so on. It requires much sad experience, before such egoism comes under control; before it is recognised that, while a certain amount of competitive egoism is necessary for growth of young animal or young nation, more than that amount is a hindrance, is even positively destructive; before soul turns to genuine *Altruism*, patient tolerance, understanding sympathy, the Truth of All in All; before it realises that, though, no doubt, distinctions of superior and inferior, senior and junior, stronger and weaker, are facts in nature, yet that they are relative and must not be over-emphasised, that strength must not be boasted too much, nor weakness too much despised

No one can say that his physical body is made of matter created out of nothing, originally, for the first time, for him alone, has borrowed nothing from anyone; differs from all other matter. It is fairly obvious that each atom of every 'body' has passed through countless bodies in the past, and will pass through countless bodies in future; though it is also true that each body is somewhat different in make-up from all others. So too, every thought, emotion, volition, of every 'mind' or 'soul', (whichever word is preferred), has passed, and will pass, through countless other minds or souls; though also with some difference in grouping and manifesting;

whereby each 'mind' or soul becomes as 'distinctive' or 'individual' as each body. Let us recognise such differences, 'realties', which constitute the 'personal' element or 'personality', by all means; but let us regard them as of less importance, as changing, passing, therefore Non-Essential; and let us recognise more fully, 'idealities', the 'impersonal' or 'all-personal' element, and regard them as of greater importance, persisting through changes, permanent, and therefore Essential. In other words, we should value, but not over-value, the 'individual', the 'personal'. We should value at least a little more, the 'Universal', 'the Common Consciousness' belonging to all individuals; whereby alone can be 'each for all, and all for each', whereby alone social life, collective existence, feel and fact of unitive 'We', as distinguished from, and at same time inclusive of, feel and fact of separative and exclusive 'I's', is made possible.

Unhappily, most of us are at that stage of 'youth' (of mind) in evolution, in which we take greater delight in feeling 'peculiar', 'uniquely individual', 'original', than in feeling 'Common', 'Universal', 'Eternal'. Yet craving for latter is there, always, in every heart. It is there sub-consciously, not understandingly. No one wants to feel 'uniquely individual' in solitude, away from all fellow-creatures, 'away from the haunts of men', 'far

from the madding crowd'; but wants to do so *amidst* other individuals, otherwise his 'peculiarity', which is wholly dependent on contra-distinction from *others*, would disappear. Thus does he tie himself to others unavoidably. The craving is present in every heart supra-consciously also: for the reason that every individual self *is* Universal Self, and yearns in the depths of his heart, to recover consciously his forgotten and lost high status.

Of course, we must not futilely try to abolish wholly, this preliminary wish to feel separate and peculiar, in respect of religions, any more than in respect of individuals. It too has an obvious and necessary place in the evolutionary Scheme of God's Nature, Universal Self's Nature. But we have to moderate it, reconcile it with, slowly transmute it into, its opposite; more and more. This is not impossible; rather, it too is equally ordained by that same Nature.

In the work of reconciling religions, it is very easy to avoid hurting sensitiveness on the subject of originality, by studiously eschewing all attempt to derive any one religion out of any other. It is not necessary at all to make such attempt, so far as the general public is concerned. Scholars who wish to study religions comparatively and historically, may of course do so for themselves, i.e., for their own refined recreation; and also for enrichment of

scientific knowledge regarding human *psychical* evolution, even as biologists trace *physical* evolution. But controversial propaganda should be avoided, in interests of peace.

Also, if task of tracing ancestry of religions is pursued stringently and diligently, with open mind, it must obviously prove to be one without possibility of completion and termination. It will be like endeavouring to answer the question : ' Is tree first, or seed first ? '. "Veil after veil will lift, but there must be veil upon veil behind ". Who can trace the atoms-and-mentations of any individual body-mind through ancestor before ancestor, up to a really first beginning ? Metaphysic tells us that there can be no such absolute beginning, in strict sense. Even if we could go right up to beginning of our solar system, in primal nebula or invisible 'ether' or 'radiant matter', that would require to be derived from the corpus of a yet earlier system ; and so on, ad infinitum. Why not then promote religious brotherhood and peace among the general public, by saying at once, what is utterly true also—that all atoms and all mentations and all religions, of all countless generations of living beings, past, present, future, not only of this earth, but of all orbs of heaven, (each of which has, presumably, its own types of living beings), and all visible and invisible planes of matter, are all equally derived from the

'Universal, Eternal, Body-Mind, Matter-Spirit, God-Nature, the One Omnipotent, Omnipresent, Omniscient Self, in whose Consciousness "all things live and move and have their being," which pervades them all ?

It is better to understand, appraise, appreciate, than to ridicule, belittle, deprecate ; better to see the good points more than the bad ; better to see agreements more than differences ; better to make peace than war.

Some students of comparative religion, of a tendency opposite to that which claims unique originality for the creed it favors, may say : " Since there is so much similarity, even identity in some respects, between all, therefore, each later must have borrowed from an earlier ; and, therefore, the 'democratic' test of validity, majority of votes, consensus of opinion, proffered in the book, in respect of 'religion', which test is not a test in 'science' at all, does not hold good. Consensus is not independent. We have only one vote, repeated over and over again, flowing down the river of time ; and it may have been given to a falsehood in the beginning."

Reply to this would be : " Even in Science, method of *concomitant* variations, used for testing truth of hypotheses and conclusions, is only a way of proving 'unanimity', through 'uniformity,' or, at

least overwhelming ' majority ', of votes. Secondly, we have right to ask, What is cause of the initial falsehood, if any? And *why* has mankind given its vote to, and put faith in, *such* a falsehood; a falsehood of this particular kind, and generation after generation?" No sufficient answer has ever been offered to this query.

Yet again, some thinkers endeavour to explain away a religion or a philosophy by peculiar psychological constitution of individual who started that religion or formulated that philosophy, or by 'environment', or 'historical accident', or 'economic', or 'geographic', or 'physiographic' circumstances. Such explanations may, no doubt, be justified in respect of variable 'peculiarities'; which, however, ought to be regarded as 'non-essential', for reasons mentioned before. They cannot explain invariable fundamental 'generalities'. Also, question arises again, and always. *Why* and *how* those peculiar individual constitutions, historical accidents, economic and other circumstances, mutations and variations?

Every law and fact requires further laws and facts to explain it; these, yet others! *ad infinitum*; until we come to Infinite Self, Total Consciousness (including Sub-, Supra-, and Un-Conscious; waking, dreaming, slumbering), Universal Mind, Anima Mundi, and Its Will-and-Imagination; which works

by Eonic Plan of Integration and Disintegration of Forms, according to its own Meta-physical (including physical) Laws of Nature. In this All-pervading All-including Mind and Its infinite Ideation, all Religion, Philosophy, Science, Law, Art, meet and merge, and from It they all emerge ; in endless repetition When we come to That, all questions are answered , all doubts are set at rest , Final Synthesis is achieved ; Final Peace of Mind is gained.

Without achieving such synthesis, Human World cannot attain Happiness, here or hereafter Religious and other wars of the past, communal riots and pogroms of the present, between Christians and Muslims, and Hindus and Muslims, between different castes of Hindus, between Shiā Muslims and Sunnī Muslims, in India, Jews and Arabs in Palestine, Jews and Germans in Germany, the vast politico-economic ' riots ' ; wars of the recent past, and of the present (in Korea, in Palestine, Burma, Indonesia, etc.)—all these are due, ultimately, to lack of such Synthesis.

After such maniacal accumulation of murderous explosives, a war of titans is inevitable. Bursting energies forcibly imprisoned in those explosives must find release. They cannot be kept locked up thus for ever. Worst, most powerful, most destructive, most elemental, primary, terrible explosives are psychical explosives, crassly egoistic evil human

passions, lust, hate, greed, pride, mutual fear, jealousy. It is these which manufacture all secondary material explosives. After the monstrous amassing of both has exhausted itself; after it has left the human world in ruins; after that, need for reconstruction will arise, and be felt acutely by the broken nations.

May the Mystery which has fashioned and maintains the Universe ordain that the nations may be cured soon of this war mania! Thus we must pray, though, from Its standpoint of Infinity, birth and death of whole human races and civilisations can be of no greater import than growth and destruction of ant-hills. But even if war ceases, new adjustments of human relations on a world-wide scale, will be necessary. Otherwise, if conditions and causes, armaments and social structures, are left as they have been so far, corresponding effects must follow again; in shape of unappeasable discords, jealousies, hatreds; out of which, worse and worse wars must recur, inevitably, again and again; until armaments have all perished, in one way or another, and war-madness has been all purged and bled out of the Human Race, for some centuries, if not for ever, which is impossible, because of the Law of Duality.

For such re-adjustment, after complete dispersal and exhaustion, either by mutual sincere and

far-sighted agreement, or by mutual slaughter, of this vast mass of *psychical* and *physical* explosives ; a Great Synthesis, a Comprehensive Integration, of all aspects, Spiritual and Material, Individual and Collective, of the Life of the Human Race, is indispensable.

If the Russian experiment be successful, in all respects, it will naturally be imitated everywhere. If it fail,¹ as is likely, in important respects, because of lack of Spiritual, 'anti-toxic', trust-breeding, sincerity-and-sympathy-producing, integrative and constructive nourishment and because of disregard of indefeasible essential psychological and philosophical principles; then the alternative will be, (1) a Universal Religion, which will be the Head-and-Heart of all religions; which will unite them all; will provide and promote that Spiritual nourishment, in shape of ever-growing accumulation, and ever wider spread, of those most powerful co-hesives, anti-*ex*-plosives, anti-*dis*-ruptives, *viz*, domestic and social affections and strong trusts; and will also

¹ Indeed, is failing, has failed, *vide* U. S A Senator Bulitt's book, and, more recent, 'A World Apart', by Gerling, with Introduction by Bernard Russell, pub : 1949 But yet again, in July-August, 1955, a sincere and strenuous effort for World Peace has been made by President of U. S A and Premiers of France, Britain, and Russia, and terms have been agreed upon, at a conference in Geneva (Switzerland) The *spirit* and methods of government do seem to have changed for the better since the death of Stalin in March, 1953.

provide, as part of that Universal Religion, (2) a rational Scheme of Individuo-Social Organisation which would be in accord with all sciences, and especially with the Science of Human Nature, i.e., Psychology.

Such Universal Religion has been provided for us, by the Scriptures of the Nations; and such a Scheme of Socio-Individual Organisation, by Vedic Scriptures in particular, as fundamental part of Religion; because Religion, to justify itself, must be of help and service everywhere, must secure for human being, the maximum possible, of Happiness *Here* as well as *Hereafter*.

Everywhere, today, 'rulers' of nations which are regarded as 'Great Powers', (rulers in shape of presidents, dictators, kings, premiers, cabinets, influential capitalist and militarist cliques and coteries), are striving to capture yet more 'power' of all kinds than they have already got, and 'leaders' of weaker or subjugated peoples, which are struggling to win back political freedom, are striving to recover the 'power' which their predecessors have lost. But neither those 'rulers' nor these 'leaders' anywhere, (except, perhaps, in Russia, in a lopsided, 'half-truth', fashion), are willing to think about how 'power' can and should be used, so as to Organise for Peace, systematically, each nation, each people, and thereby the whole Human Race.

They are all intensely and immensely busy with *Organising for War* or for political struggle 'Let us snatch power, and more power, and yet more power, first, we shall do afterwards, at our sweet will, all the thinking that it may suit us to think, as to *how to use that power*' Result of this attitude is—wars, in the one case, internal dissensions, jealousies, mutual thwartings, and failures, in the other.

The 'Great Powers' possess 'Self-government'; at least each one says it does 'Leaders', of the peoples who are struggling for freedom from subjection and serfdom, proclaim that they want 'Self-government'. But apparently, nowhere is any real effort being made by anyone to think out and expound *what exactly Freedom¹* and *Self-government mean*, and *how Self-government can be made Good-government* also, at the same time to consider and explain whether Self-government means, and should mean, 'government of the people, *for* the people (*a*) *by all* the people, (which is obviously impossible), or (*b*) *by a few* of the *worst* of the people (who may manage, as happens not rarely, to

¹ Every one of the forty odd 'sovereign' states that were directly or indirectly involved in the World Wars, was and is 'self-governing', and uses profusely the blessed word 'Freedom'. But they have all been exercising their 'self-determining' in frantic endeavours to mangle and strangle one another. Freedom has come to mean, in practice, 'freedom to rob and rape and murder'.

get themselves elected by the now well-known devices of electioneering, racketeering, propagandising, intimidating, deceiving, gerrymandering, disciplining, gagging, grafting, boodling, bribing, etc.,) or (c) by a few of mixed and doubtful quality, (which is the most frequent fact), or (d) by a few of the best and wisest of the people, (which is very, very, rarely the case in known history). In other words, no one who counts in the world's affairs, today, is (a) actively realising and proclaiming to the world, the fact that Self-government and Good-government can *Coincide* only when the governing 'Self' is, not the lower and baser 'self' of the People, but their *Higher*, nobler, genuinely philanthropic 'Self'. Nor is any such person explaining (b) how such government by the Higher Self, 'the Kingdom of Heaven on Earth', may be achieved, &c., how it may be managed that only the best and the wisest are *elected*¹. It is plainer and more self-evident than any axioms of geometry, that only good and wise laws can promote happiness of mankind, that good and wise laws can be made and administered by only good and wise men and women, who constitute the Higher Self of the People; and that only such persons should be

¹ Answer to this 'how' is attempted in this work in several places, see page-references, in Index of Subjects, at 'Self-Government' and 'Social Organisation'

entrusted with powers of legislation and administration. Yet these so self-evident truths are so very difficult for mankind to learn, that it has not learnt them yet, after many thousands, probably tens of thousands, of years of most bitter experience of consequences of not acting in accord with them.

Result is that all these warring 'rulers', as much as struggling 'leaders', actuated, not by far-sighted humanism, but by narrow and very short-sighted nationalism, or even by mean and sordid personal ambitions and motives, are wandering in the dark, 'blind leaders of the blind', causing only very grievous harm and hurt to those whom they profess to wish to help.

They cannot say that the Right Way is hidden from them. They are themselves turning their eyes away from it. The Sun of Scriptural Wisdom is flaming, and radiating Light upon it from the heavens, all the time. Rulers and leaders have only to remove from their own eyes, the thick bandages of egoism and nationalism, and put on the glasses of Humanism. They would all, then, see at once, clearly laid out for them, the Path to Peace and Prosperity for all. Scriptures are telling us, all the time, *how Society can and should be Organised for Peace, how the best and wisest of the people can be recognised, how they and they alone should be elected to the places of legislative power.*

Problems of 'Organising for War', and for political struggle, may seem more *urgent*; but, surely, in any case, they are not more *important* than the problem of 'Organising for Peace'. Former are passing; they are concerned with temporary means and aims. Latter is *Permanent Problem*, concerned with *Permanent End*. To far-sighted view, it is much more *urgent* also, as well as more *important*. For, if it is solved satisfactorily, former will abate and disappear automatically.

Let us all, then, engage in the work of promoting, firstly, by helping to spread right knowledge on the subject, and, secondly, in every other way possible, the Organisation of the Human Race for Peace and thence Prosperity.

Dear Reader, I pray you, unless you have found, and made sure of, a better way, to read about the Ancient Way, leisurely, in this book Endeavour is made here to expound, no new way, but the Way of the Ancients, a Way which is time-tested. If you feel satisfied that that Way is worth experimenting with, then I pray you to do all you can to spread, as widely as may be possible for you, this Essential Message of all Scriptures, as preparation for the great Re-adjustment and Synthesis.

<i>Banaras,</i> 19-9-1939 (Revised, 19-9-1955)	Your respectful and sincere Well-wisher, BHAGAVĀN DĀS
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PREFACE TO THIRD EDITION

(REVISED)

SOME special features of this edition are as follows :

(α) It has been observed by E. A. Poe, in one of his tales, that, in English, of all words, 'the' occurs most often.

I have eliminated on an average, some twenty-five 'the-s' out of those that appeared on every page of second edition ; so there are about eighteen thousand less in this

Readers may feel gaps and jolts, now and then, (as I myself do), reading those 'expurgated' sentences, but I believe that they will shortly become accustomed to do without them (as I myself have become), and may even feel a more rhythmic poetic earnestness appear, now, in such sentences. If I am not mistaken, 'the' appears less frequently in English poetry than in prose. There is no word corresponding to 'the' in Samskr̄t, nor in Persian, nor Hindi. In Arabic, its correspondent *al* is tacked on *ad nauseam* before every noun. Its correspondent in French and other Latin languages has been

further elaborated into separate masculine and feminine forms A friend who knows German tells me that it has a neuter form also in that language Consider what special significance attaches to 'the', what portion of its meaning is lost by a sentence, if its 'the-s' are omitted Where 'the' has a limiting and specifying effect, as a '*definite*', i.e., defining, article, there it should certainly be used, otherwise it need not be

Reader may try this method on any sentences taken at random, in any English book, by removing 'the-s'.

A fuller statement of reasons for reducing use of 'the' will be found in Preface to fourth edition of *Science of Emotions* (pub 1953, T. P. H, Adyar).

(b) Text, scripture-quotations, translations, and footnotes, of previous edition, have all been reproduced in this, with only verbal alterations, here and there, to clear up obscurity, or read better. New matter has been added to all four.

(c) In transliteration of Skt. words, in latter portion of this book, s a n d h i, 'coalescence', of sounds, has been replaced more and more by un-coalesced forms. Thus, on p 1, first words of first Skt. verse are E k o D é v a h ; un-coalesced, they would be E k a h D é v a h . P. 1 reads A t r a é v a s v a r g a h , a t r a é v a n a r a k a h , ('Heaven is here, in us, and so is Hell'). Coalesced, the

words would read, A t r a i v a s v a r g o t r a i v a n a r a k a h. One main cause of difficulty of Skt. is this running together of letter-sounds and mixing up of words. This is perfectly natural in speaking, and 'rules of coalescence' of vowels and vowels, consonants and consonants, vowels and consonants, and of aspirates and nasals with these—all such rules are only explication and multiplication of one simple rule. Pronounce two words quickly, and sound which results from merging together of last letter of one and first of other, is embodied in a formal rule, *viz.*, 'If this letter is followed by this other letter, the two will be replaced by this third.'

Such coalescences and transformations occur inevitab(le)ly in all languages. In English, if to 'intelligible' we add 'ty' the new word becomes 'intelligib-ility'; not 'intelligib-lety'. For more complicated examples, readers may consult books on 'Phonetics'; or, for amusing ones, Bernard Shaw's play *Pygmalion*. In Skt., the facts that name and sound of every letter are identical, and that alphabet is scientifically arranged in accord with vocal apparatus, make phonetic coalescence and showing of it in writing, much easier. Also, there is no difference of capital and small letters, in printing types, and again in manuscript, in Skt.

(d) Words of a dozen languages, Skt., Arabic, Persian, Zend, Pāli, Prākṛti, Gurmukhī, Latin, Greek,

Chinese, Hindī, Urdu, and we may well include English also in list, have been transliterated in roman script in this book. That script may, therefore, be rightly regarded as a World-Script in present epoch of human history. As such, use of it deserves to be promoted far and wide, of course, without attempting to abolish any particular script which any communities or nations may cling to. A World-Script will powerfully help World-Religion and World-Order, i.e., World-Organisation, which would be a World-Order based on and arising out of a World-Religion.

(e) Readers will notice that, in foot-notes, events of current history are referred to, from time to time, to illustrate principles and generalisations stated in text. Literature, even scientific literature, is affected by current events, and, in turn, reacts upon and affects current history. Thus, invention of atom-bomb has stopped World-War II in Asia; but atom-bomb, in turn, has created such insecurity and terror in all nations and countries, that world is again being divided into two armed camps, one headed by U S A, and another by Soviet Russia; and a third and far more devastating World-War is hovering in air and spreading a pall of black gloom over whole human world¹. That even particular

¹ Invention of hydrogen-bomb, many times more powerful than atom-bomb, and possibility, envisaged by

physical sciences are better understood if studied in light of history of their development, and should be so studied—this is now a commonplace of Educational Method. Indeed, is not History of our Solar System, from its beginnings in primeval nebula down to this day, scientific description of its evolution in all its countless aspects?

Whole and sole purpose of this book is to endeavour to show way to establish Concord in place of horrible Discord, which pervades world generally and India specially, by means of a rational World-Order based on and issuing out of a World-Religion. Therefore references, in foot-notes, to

scientists, of invention of bombs a hundred times more powerful, explosion of one of which would annihilate all life on a whole continent, is intensifying mutual terror and gloom. But that very excess of terror has bred a natural reaction, and serious and sincere efforts are being made to establish Peace throughout World. Prime Minister of India, Jawāharlāl Nehru, has been taking a leading part in this movement and has toured in Russia and almost all other States of Europe in July, 1955. Before this, there was a conference, held in Bandung, (Java), of Prime Ministers of all Asian and Indonesian countries, also Egypt, in which India's Prime Minister took a leading part. It is matter for great thankfulness that a compact of Peace was agreed upon. More recently, President of USA and Prime Ministers of Russia and France and Britain have been discussing terms of Peace in Geneva, and have arrived at an agreement. Russian policy, internal as well as external, has changed very greatly since death of Stalin in March, 1953.

specific instances of awful Discord are obviously relevant.

One amazing event of tremendous significance and importance, *viz*, withdrawal of British Government from India, and handing over of all power to purely Indian Administration, took place during first minute after midnight between 15th and 16th August, 1947. Success of this step has, however been marred greatly by Division of India into a Muslim Pākistān and a (predominantly) Hindū Hindu-sthān. It is undisputed historical fact that certain Muslim leaders insisted on such vivisection of India, while Hindū leaders protested against it. Despite this protest, British Government, just before its departure, carried out Division in accord with wishes of those Muslim leaders. It was preceded by ferocious Communal Riots, engineered, to show that the two communities could not dwell together in peace, though it was glaringly patent that *all* seventy-five or eighty millions of Muslims, scattered all over India, and living *amidst* three hundred and more millions of Hindus and another ten millions of Christians, Pārsīs, Jews, etc., could not possibly be separated out, and brought away, from those others, and settled on one large piece of India, from which all others would be driven away. Therefore, two parts, where Muslim population was already predominant in number, were

selected by those Muslim leaders, *viz.*, Sindh, West Punjab, and North-West Frontier as one block, and East Bengal as another. The 'communal riots' constituted a 'civil war', than which, as has been well observed, no other war is inspired by more intense hatred. Politico-economic motives also have been combined with religious fanaticism in this war, in India, and have exacerbated mutual hatred. It is not quite ended even now (at close of 1955), though not very active. Problem of Kashmir, in which battles raged fiercely for some two years, between invading regular army of Pākistān and defending army of India (*Hindu-sthān*), has not been solved yet. Only a sort of truce prevails. Since communal riots commenced, some years before Division, more than a million men, women, children, Hindus and Muslims, have been slaughtered, and many hundred crores of rupees worth of property, mostly that of Hindus, has been destroyed, besides¹. And the double trek continues still, from each part to the other, mostly that of Hindus from Pākistān into India, but also of Bengāli-speaking Muslims of East Pākistān into Indian West Bangāl, who are maltreated by Pākistāni Government because they cannot and will not learn to speak Urdū.

¹ Present exchange rate is thirteen rupees and a half for one pound sterling, and a crore is ten millions.

Those forty millions of Muslims who continue to live in Hindusthān, find that their religious observances are in no way interfered with by their Hindū neighbours, and Indian Government protects their rights with even greater care than those of Hindūs. Thousands of Muslims, who had crossed over to Western Pākistān, have returned to India, sadder and wiser, having realised that life was easier for them in India, (as it is now known to world, in distinction from Pākistān)

Removal of the great drawback mentioned above, and re-union of sundered parts into one whole, as before, and prosperity for both communities as well as all others dwelling in India, depends on both administrations, of Pākistān and Hindusthān, realising (as, unhappily, *neither* does at present) that *best*, indeed, *only*, way of establishing peace and promoting general welfare throughout their respective dominions, and therefore India as a whole, is to teach and preach persistently, in every corner of the land, the *Common Essentials of All Religions*, and to establish, on basis of *scientific psychological principles*, included in that Universal World Religion, a Rational Socio-Individual Organisation, which will fulfil all just needs of all persons of all creeds, castes, colours races, and both sexes, i.e., fill all stomachs, cover all backs, provide roofs over all heads, ensure decent family life, and bring

livelihood-giving suitable work and appropriately qualified worker together¹

It may be noted incidentally that name of this country in far back times, was Aja-nābha (*vide Bhāgavata*, V viii. 3). Then, because of two great sovereigns, both named Bharata, one of Solar, one of Lunar, Dynasty, it began to be called Bhārata. This name it continues to retain, even now, in all Samskr̥t literature and all religious ritual Irān-iāns (Āryāniāns, Āryans, also called Persians, who are only a branch of Āryan Race, as are inhabitants, Celts, of Eire or Ire-land, and indeed all Indo-Āryans or Indo-Europeans)—these Irān-iāns called the great river Sindhu as Hindhu, and inhabitants on both sides of it as Haīndhavas, because of peculiar formation of their vocal apparatus Earlier Greeks (Ionians, Yavanas in Skt) called this river Indus, country round about it and beyond as India, and inhabitants an Indians By these names they are known to all world today

India, on 26th November 1949, declared itself a Democratic Republic, but decided to remain an independent member of the British Commonwealth of Nations; and chose Dr Rājéndra Prasād as its first President

Another fact, even more amazing than withdrawal of British Government, may be recorded here.

¹ See pp 643-701 *infra*, for an outline of such.

Chero, in his *World Predictions*, (published in 1927, by The London Publishing Co, 62, Oxford St, London, W. 1), foretold. "England . . . will give India her freedom, but religious warfare will rend that country from end to end until it becomes equally divided between the Mohamedan and the followers of Buddha and Brahma" ; (p. 160). No one in India had even dreamt of such a division, in 1927. He foretold a number of other events also, some of which have come true, such as abdication of Edward VIII and assassination of George VI, in England.

(f) No country is east, no country is west, of any other. All are, by turns, now east and now west, of one another. None the less, *Ex Oriente Lux*, 'Light comes from the East' always, to every country, at Sun-dawn And Civilisation travels with Sun. It is therefore in nature of things that, having reached its culmination in U.S.A, for the present, Civilisation should seek a new life with a new form in Japan, China, India, Russia, and Asia generally And no other country than India, not even venerable China, provides fundamental principles, applicable everywhere and always, with suitable modifications of detail in accord with local and national conditions, of a complete Socio-Individual Organisation based on World-Religion.

BHAGAVĀN DĀS

NOTE

(*Revised*)

ON TEXTS GATHERED IN THIS BOOK, AND CERTAIN OTHER MATTERS

ELEVEN religions are usually regarded as great and living and current at present. These, proceeding from east to west, are : (1) Shintoism born in Japan, (2) Tāoism (or Laotism), and (3) Confucianism, in China ; (4) Vēdism (or Vaidika Dharma, Sanātana Dharma, Ārya Dharma, Mānava Dharma, now commonly called 'Hinduism'), (5) Buddhism, (6) Jainism, and (7) Sikhism, in India, (8) Zoroastrianism (or Pārsism), in Irān (or Persia), (9) Judaism (or Hebraism, or Israelitism, or Jewish religion), and (10) Christianity, in Palestine, (11) Islām (or Mohammedanism), in Arabia. Parallel passages have been gathered in this work from universally recognised Scriptures, and also from some other generally and highly honored writings by revered Elders, of these eleven.

Well-known scriptures of Védism are four *Véda-s* with their *Upanishat-s*, *Manu-Smṛti*, *Gītā*, *Mahābhārata*, *Rāmāyana*, *Bhāgavata*, several *Purāna-s*, and some less well-known *Smṛti-s*. Texts have been taken from these, principally. They are regarded as sacred and authoritative in the order mentioned. But first four are practically of equal authority, and *Manu*, because of its compact conciseness, comprehensive completeness, high and austere tone, and terse clear language, is the most frequently referred to, in discussions over matters of religious practice. Védism is not connected with any one name as founder's, but Védic socio-religious polity of India has been based, from time immemorial, on 'The Institutes, or Laws, of Manu'. *Manu* is regarded as Primal Patriarch and Law-giver of Indian Āryans, and as having embodied, in his Laws, all that substance and quintessence of *Véda-s* which bears upon orderly planning and conducting of individual and collective human life. Latest recension of these Laws, in some 2700 couplets, is current under the name of *Manu-Smṛti*. It is said by critical Orientalist scholars, to be between 2000 and 2500 years old now. But all are agreed that it is based on, and includes, large portions of much earlier texts, *Mānavi-Dharma-Sūtra*, *Viddha-Manu*, and others. These are not now extant, and are known only through quotations and references.

in available later works. The four *Vēdās*, Scriptures proper of Vēdism, on which Manu and all subsequent expounders base themselves, are said, by unanimous Indian tradition, to have been collected, edited, and given their present shape, by Kishna Dvaipāyana Vyāsa, famous as Vēda-Vyāsa, some 5000 years ago, i.e., about 3100 B.C., just before beginning of Kali-Yuga era. But some western Orientalists say that the oldest hymns belong to about 1500 B.C. New researches and fresh findings are, however, steadily pushing the period further and further back. Vēda-Vyāsa is also author of *Mahā-bhārata*, in which *Manu* is often referred to and quoted from. Where excerpts are taken from works other than these above-mentioned, their names are given.

Christian Texts have been drawn from English *Bible*, *New* as well as *Old Testament* mostly Those of Jewish religion, from English *Old Testament*, chiefly

Texts of Zoroastrianism, have been taken from J M Chatterji and A. N. Bilmoria's edition of *Gāthā*

Scriptures of Islām, from which passages have been taken, are, principally, *Qurān* and *Hadīs* in Arabic, and, next, writings of great Sūfis, mostly in Persian. These have been already referred to in Foreword. Founder of Islām, Muhammad, was born in 570 A.C., and died in 632 A.C.

Texts of Shintoism, Tāoism, and Confucianism, this compiler had no access to, in the original. But there is one exception.¹ All others have been taken from various published English translations of that primary scripture of Taoism, *Tao Teh King*, ascribed to Lao-tse; and of *Shu King*, *Shu King. Analects*, and other works of Confucius; many from that marvel of learned industry, *Treasure-House of Living Religions*, by Robert Ernest Hume, (pub 1933, by Charles Scribner's Sons, New York and London) Like Vēdism, Shinto is not connected with the name of any one person as founder. Lao-tse and Kung-fu-tse, *z e*, Confucius, (as also Pythagoras, of Magna Graecia), were older and younger contemporaries of Buddha. 6th century B C. is remarkable for a great influx of religious thought and aspiration, in many countries, far apart² from each other, but, as historical and archeological research is establishing more and more clearly year by year, not without communication with each other.

Buddhist texts have been drawn, in original Pāli, (a 'dialect' or popular form of Samskr̥t), current among the people in Buddha's time, mostly from two small books, *Khuddaka Pātha* and *Dhammapāda*. They are collections, in Buddha's own

¹ See f n. to p. 399

words, of his most important teachings *Dhamma-pada* is to Buddhists what *Gītā* is to Vēdists (Hindū-s) A few texts in Samskr̥t have been derived from other works, authoritative in next degree, like those of Nāgārjuna and Asanga. Of such works, full names are given. Years of Buddha's birth and death are given variously, as 624 and 544 B C or 568 and 488 B C

Jaina texts have been derived, in original Samskr̥t or Prākṛt, (a variant of, and contemporaneous with, Pāli), from works regarded as authoritative, whose names have been given in full, after texts quoted. No teachings of founder, viz., Mahāvīra Jīna, also known as Vardhamāna Svāmī, (b 599 B C , d 527 B.C , or, b 549 B C., d. 477 B C.), definitely known to be in his own words, are extant Earliest collections are by Bhadra-bāhu, of 4th century B C But in 1942, "a small book has been published, titled *Mahāvīra Vāṇī*, 'The Words of Mahāvīra'. It was compiled by Shāntilāl Vanamālī Shéth, edited by Prof. Béchar Dās Jīvarāj Doshi of Ahmadābād College, and published by Sastā-Sāhitya Mandal, New Delhi. It contains 345 verses, which are believed to have been spoken by Mahāvīra himself, on different occasions These have been arranged in 25 chapters on the lines of *Dhamma-pada* The verses are all very significant. Work has been very well done, and may well become a manual and

text-book for Jaina community, such as *Dhammapāda* is for the Buddhist. At insistent wish of Prof Béchar Dās, present writer contributed an introduction to it. Two more editions have been brought out since; and also a bigger and better arranged work, entitled *Tirthankara Vardhamāna*, pub 1953 (See fn on p 691)

Texts of Sikhism, whose tenets are practically same as those of *Gītā*, have been taken mostly from its chief scripture, *Guru Grantha Sāhab*, in which are collected hymns and teachings of eight of the ten Sikh Gurus. Two did not leave any writings. Guru Nānak, founder and first Guru, was born in 1469, fourteen years before Martin Luther. Guru Govind Singh, tenth and last, passed away in 1708. He was great teacher, great warrior, great traveller, and great poet. Nānak was also all these, except warrior. Most of the hymns and teachings are in a language which may be described as Panjabī form of Hindi or Hindustānī. Many verses of other renowned saints, like Kabīr, have also been included in *Grantha*; which shows the broad-mindedness of the Gurus. Nānak was a scholar of Persian and Arabic, is said to have visited Kā'ba in Mecca, and to have always kept a copy of *Qurān* with him, this copy is said to be still preserved in Guru-dvārā built by Guru Har-sahāya, in Ferozpur, Punjāb.

and Meditation, (27) Thankfulness, (28) Sincerity and Earnestness, (29) Truth and Truthfulness, (30) Temperance, (31) Happiness and Joy (32) Righteousness and Virtue, (33) Duty, (34) Self-dedication and Divine Benediction. Pt III, MAN AND HIS SOCIAL RELATIONS—(35) Anger and Hatred, (36) Work and Deeds, (37) Wealth and Prosperity, (38) Giving and Helping, (39) Justice and Judgment, (40) Obedience, (41) The Golden Rule, (42) Good for Evil, (43) Forgiveness, (44) Love, (45) Serving Others, (46) Friendship and Brotherhood, (47), Associates, (48) Home and Family Relations, (49) Peace and War, (50) Summary Duties, Pt IV, A PROGRAM OF JOINT WORSHIP, arranged as a Responsive Reading

Another very noteworthy book is Dr. Frank L. Riley's *The Bible of Bibles*, (pub 1929, by J F. Rowny Press, Los Angeles). Author says in his Foreword "It is the concentrated essence of the Bibles of the world, extracted during nineteen years of study from sixty Sacred Books, dating back, according to some authorities, 13000 years" Dr. Riley has included, in his researches, Taoism, Védism, Judaism, Zoroastrianism, Buddhism, Christianity, and Islām, of the living, and Babylonian-Chaldean, Egyptian, and Mithraist religions, of the past. He does not seem to have dealt with Shintoism, Confucianism, and Sikhism. He does

not tell us the total number of passages he has extracted. They cover 343 pages of fine large print. A rough calculation gives 1400 These are divided into 12 chapters, which cover 387 topics, listed in a Table of Contents, (which is named Index), at beginning. Chapters are. (1) God, (2) Beneficence of God, (3) Creation, (4) Origin and Constitution of Man, (5) Problem of Evil, (6) World, Matter, the Unreal, (7) Works of the Flesh, (8) Kingdom of Heaven, (9) Fruits of the Spirit, (10) The Straight and Narrow Way, (11) Prayer and Healing, (12) Peace-Brotherhood-Heaven on Earth An Introduction gives brief accounts of the sixty Bibles of the several religions studied. "A digest, or terse account, of excerpts from the Sacred Books which appear in" each chapter, averaging about a page and a half in length, is prefixed to it .

Present writer could not make such use of Dr. Riley's book as it deserved. He came across it rather late Absence of an alphabetical Index, and of page-references in table of contents, hampered utilisation Preparation of copy, new edition of present work, from notes previously gathered, on margins and pasted-in slips of a copy of first edition, was begun in January, 1939, after resigning membership of Central Legislative Assembly of India First batch of 'copy' was sent to press in March, 1939 Thereafter, compiler had not leisure and

vitality to spare nor peace of mind enough, for hunting up originals of a score or more of translated passages, quoted in Dr. Riley's book, which appeared very relevant. Throughout that whole month, and first week of April, very serious communal riots, a small 'civil war', raged in Banāras, between bands of Hindus and Muslims, misguided and incited by evil-minded self-seeking politico-religious misleaders, despite all endeavours of a joint Hindu-Muslim Peace Committee, of which this writer had been elected Chairman, to his great unhappiness and helpless worry, the riots resulted in some 50 to 60 deaths, about 400 cases of serious and light hurt, very many cases of arson, loot, wanton destruction of property. Much worse riots had occurred in Banaras and Kanpur in February-March, 1931; and six persons, three Hindus and three Musalmans, were appointed as a Committee with present writer as Chairman, by the Indian National Congress, then sitting in Annual Session in Karāchi, to investigate causes and report. The Spirit of Hatred, which has been stalking more and more proudly all over the human world, since beginning of 20th century, made its horrible presence felt acutely, thus, in Banāras, and showed that the 'Forces of Good, of Light, of Truth', have to struggle longer and harder against opposite forces, of the Enemy of Mankind, 'Forces of Evil, of Darkness, of

Falsehood'; before latter will be checked effectively. It is very necessary, for many workers, in all countries, to take up the task of establishing *religious* peace and good-will, for, from it, and not without it, will come economic and political peace and good-will.

Works of Dr Riley and Prof Hume possess not only outstanding merit in respect of scholarly industry, but are very praiseworthy for the philanthropic spirit of all-conciliating all-embracing Human Brotherhood and Solidarity which breathes throughout, in them. Because of lack of knowledge of any European language other than English, and of very limited reading in even that, this writer has not come across any other works using a similar method, except those which will be mentioned presently. It is to be hoped there are others, for such, and many such, in every language, are greatly needed to promote Human Brotherhood, true Spiritual Liberty and Fraternity, and Material Equitability. No doubt, a number of books have been written and published, whose purpose also is liberal-minded reconciliation of creeds. A fine recent work of this kind is *World-Fellowship*, edited by C F. Weller (pub. 1935, by Liveright Publishing Corporation, New York). But its nature and method are very different. And even such works are too few.

Dr Riley and Prof Hume do not give any texts in original, only translations, though these are mostly from works of recognised scholars Present work, in its first edition, had only about 450 parallel passages from Scriptures of the several religions, and practically none from the three indigenous religions of China and Japan, nor from Zoroastrian *Zend-Avestā* Second edition brought together 1150 passages, which were increased to 1400 in third, in round figures.

Dr Riley and Prof Hume do not make it their purpose to trace out and supply any scientific and *organic* Scheme of Universal Religion, Religion in General, running through all religions All topics dealt with by them, are dealt with here too, also many others, but they are arranged in a different way, not as a collection of comparatively un-jointed parts, but as forming a system, a single organism, with all its members livingly articulated together, in accordance with the Science of Psychology Whether the arrangement is successful or not, reader will decide for himself Great majority of topics dealt with by Dr. Riley and Prof Hume, would be assigned to chapter on 'Way of Devotion, or Emotional (or Ethical) Constituent of Religion', in this work, and they do not touch many topics treated here in chapters on 'Way of Knowledge, or Intellectual Constituent of Religion' and 'Way of

Works or Volitional (or Actional) Constituent of Religion', (see pp. 113 on 'The Three Aspects of Religion')¹

Present work endeavours to provide, for the parallel passages, a setting of elucidative and connective comment, in the way of interpretation and illustration, so as to interlink them and make of them, all together, a continuous organic entity, without which the work would be only a collection of disjointed texts (or 'sacred bones', as a friend humorously said), a Universal Religion with a definite frame-work, not artificially eclectic, but a natural living growth; which may be readily discerned as present within outer garments of every religion, even as main features, general outlines, of human form, can be discerned in every human individual, behind his clothing. This Scheme is based on the psychological triad of knowing, desiring, acting, (see pp. 113-114).

¹ Another work, somewhat similar to Dr. Riley's, was published in 1940, by Kegan Paul, Trench, Trubner and Co., London. It is entitled *The Bible of the World*, and is a compilation by Robert O. Ballou, Friedrich Spiegelberg, and Horace L. Friess. It is a very large volume of 1400 pp. royal 8vo, and of fine large print. Each religion is treated separately, in translated extracts. There is no attempt at scientific comparison, classification, systematisation. But it is a very painstaking collection. Present writer has not found it necessary to take any extracts from it.

EVOLUTION OF PRESENT WORK

This tripartite Scheme of Religion, based on Philosophy or Metaphysic and Psychology, is fundamental part of Indian tradition from time immemorial, (see pp. 357, 569-573) It was first utilised in the new way, required by the times, in 1904, for preparation of a series of Text-Books of Hinduism, for use in the Central Hindū College and School of Banāras.

First idea was to start a Theosophical College in which students would be taught the principles of Universal Religion, and be brought up in the atmosphere of a nucleus of Universal Brotherhood. But active workers in sufficient numbers were not forthcoming from folds of other denominations. So it was decided to begin with a 'Hindū' College, which would endeavour to liberalise and rationalise at least 'Hinduism', and re-convert it into ancient Upanishadic ('philosophical') and Mānava ('human') Vēdism ('scientific religion'); would restore to it the main characteristics of 'Universal Religion', whereby rapprochement with other religions inhabiting this country would be facilitated, and solidarise the mutually repellent and fissiparous 2000 and odd castes and sub-castes and numerous sects and sub-sects, into a real living organic body-politic of interdependent parts

Very shortly after founding of the College, need for systematic compendious Text-Books of Hinduism was felt, inevitably, for teaching purposes. Dr. Annie Besant, "that high-souled woman"¹ "the mother of Mother India,"² "whose radiant spirit rekindled India's faith in her own ideals and destiny,"³ "the memory of the magnificent services rendered by whom to India will live as long as India lives";⁴ was President of the Board of Trustees and the Managing Committee of the Institution, and the present writer had the privilege and good fortune of working with her as honorary Secretary of the two bodies. "If Annie Besant had not been, Mahātmā Gāndhī could not be";⁵ "if any three or four of the other great people in India were named, the sum of their achievements, the aggregate of the benefit that they had rendered to this country, would not exceed what stood unquestionably to her credit"⁶ Board of Trustees appointed a Committee, with Dr. A. Besant and

¹ This is how Prof. William James, renowned philosopher of U.S.A., speaks of her in his *Varieties of Religious Experience*.

² These words were respectively said, in paying tribute to her, after her passing away, in September, 1933, by Dr. Mohammad Alam (a Muslim), by the famous orator and poetess, Mrs. Sarojini Naidu, (afterwards Governor of U.P., 1947-1949), by Mahātmā Gāndhi, again by Mrs. S. Naidu, and by the Rt. Hon'ble Shri V. S. Shrīnivāsa Shāstṛī, P.C.

myself as Chairman and Secretary, to prepare Text-Books. They gave us general directions to the effect that the religious and ethical training, given to students, should be of "a wide, liberal, and unsectarian character, . . . inclusive enough to unite the most divergent forms of Hindū thought, . . . must be directed to the building up of a character, pious, dutiful, strong, upright, righteous, gentle, and well-balanced—a character which will be that of a good man and a good citizen, such as can be formed only by the fundamental principles of religion, governing the general view of life and of life's obligations. That which unites Hindū-s in a common faith, must be clearly and simply taught; all that divides them must be ignored. Lastly, care must be taken to cultivate a wide spirit of tolerance, which not only respects differences of thought and practice among Hindū-s, but also respects differences of religion among non-Hindū-s, regarding all faiths with tolerance, as roads whereby men reach the Supreme "

As Secretary, the undersigned, placed before the Chairman, a Syllabus based on ancient tradition as to the three parts or Constituents of Religion. She agreed. That Syllabus, with some slight later modifications, appears as Table of Contents of the Text-Book

These Contents, as finally published, are · INTRODUCTION. Pt. I, BASIC HINDU RELIGIOUS IDEAS · (ch 1) The One Existence, (2) The Many, (3) Rebirth, (4) Karma, (5) Sacrifice, (6) Visible and Invisible Worlds Pt II, GENERAL HINDU RELIGIOUS RITES AND CUSTOMS, (ch 1) Samskāras (Sacraments), (2) Shrāddha (Oblations to the Departed), (3) Shaucham (Hygiene and Purification), (4) Five Daily Sacrifices (Acts of Service), (5) Worship, (6) Four Stages of Life, (Planning of Individual Life), (7) Caste-system (Social Organisation) Pt III, ETHICAL TEACHINGS, (ch. I) Ethical Science, What is it ?, (2) Foundation of Ethics, as given by Religion, (3) Right and Wrong, (4) Standard of Ethics, (5) Virtues and their Foundation, (6) Bliss and Emotions, (7) 'Self-Regarding' Virtues, (8) Virtues and Vices in Human Relations ; in relation to Superiors, (9) in relation to Equals, (10) in relation to Inferiors, (11) Reaction of Virtues and Vices on each other

With this Syllabus we set to work on, 'An Advanced Text-Book of Hindu Religion and Ethics', in Shrinagar (Kashmir), in summer of 1901. Some other members and I supplied Dr. Annie Besant with Samskr̥t texts, my book, *The Science of Emotions*, first edition of which was published in 1900, supplied bulk of material for third part of the work. She herself gathered some texts from English

translations in *Sacred Books of the East Series*, and, great worker that she was, drafted, in English; within two months, whole of the Text-book, amounting, as subsequently printed with some additions and alterations, to over 400 pp., cr. 8vo.

After approval by the Committee, a hundred copies of the draft were printed and sent to leaders of the Hindū community, to Pandits famous for Samskr̥t learning, and to heads of principal sects, in all parts of the country, and suggestions for additions and alterations were requested. Those that were received were carefully considered by the Committee and duly incorporated. Then *Advanced Text-book* was printed off, and introduced in College classes, in 1904. Shortly after, an *Elementary Text-Book* was prepared by the Chairman and the Secretary, for use in upper School classes. This was a simplified abridgment of the Advanced ; but a large number of illustrative stories from *Mahābhārata* and *Purāṇas* were added in its 3rd Part. Then a very small Catechism was drawn up by the Chairman for use in small children's classes. All these were in use in C. H. College and School until 1914, after which the Institution was converted into Banāras University and passed into the hands of a new and elaborately constituted management, consisting of Council, Senate, Syndicate, Faculties, etc. That new management dropped the use of

the text-books and catechism. The graded series of Text-books had been welcomed all over India, after publication; translations of the Catechism were published in eleven provincial tongues; and of the Elementary also in two or three.

In October, 1924, a Hindu-Muslim Unity Conference was held in Delhi, in consequence of violent communal riots, engineered by political and politico-religious *mis*-leaders, which had been breaking out, for some time, in scores of places, all over the country. At that Conference, present writer proposed that a Committee should be appointed, of learned and at same time large-hearted, broad-minded, and philanthropic, not narrow, bigoted, fanatic, representatives of all main religions of India, i.e., eight out of the eleven mentioned at outset of this Note, to draw up a graded series of Text-Books of Universal Religion, with parallel passages from all Scriptures, which would be taught in all educational institutions of India, and thus brought to every home in the land in every way possible. The proposal was not considered feasible. The Conference contented itself with 'appeals' for the undefined, unexplained, word 'Unity', without any mention of the 'contents' of the word, its denotation and connotation and significance in concrete terms; as is the case with the words 'Sva-rāj' and 'Self-government' and 'Freedom.' Communal riots

continued to grow worse and worse in India, as politico-economic hatreds and war-'riots' in Europe, and indeed all over the world, in this 'Age of Discord', Kali-Yuga.

Next effort, of present writer, on these lines, apart from articles in Hindi and English newspapers, was made at the All-Asia Educational Conference, at close of 1930. Foreword to first edition gives rest of the story of genesis and development of this work.

- Two other books ought to be mentioned here, which have helped this compiler greatly in understanding something of the obscure, mysterious, puzzling legends in Samskr̥t *Itihāsa-Purāna* regarding nature of other worlds and planes of matter, and their denizens, and eonian course of cyclical, cosmic, inorganic, organic, human and other involutions, evolutions, dissolutions. These matters are just touched in present work; because compiler's knowledge of them is very far from sufficient; general public is probably not deeply or scientifically interested in them; extant scriptures do not supply clearly intelligible and parallel passages about them; and finally, because, though precise and correct knowledge of their details is highly important for specialist and advanced student of what has been called 'occult science', Yoga, *Sulūk*, yet those features of Religion which are most vitally

important for an average human being, are those which are dealt with plainly by all Scriptures, and therefore here, in Chs. II and III.

These two books, above referred to, are Madame Helena Petrovna Blavatsky's monumental works, *Isis Unveiled* (2 vols., 1500 pages), and *The Secret Doctrine* (latest Adyar edition, 5 vols., 2200 pages, plus a sixth volume of Indices, 500 pages). The two volumes of the former are respectively entitled 'The Veil of Isis' and 'Isis Unveiled'. The two parts of the latter are appropriately entitled 'Cosmo-genesis' and 'Anthropo-genesis' respectively. They supply an immense amount of out-of-the-way information about so-called 'dead' religions; about the 'occult', 'super-physical', side of Religion, connected with other worlds and planes, and 'subtle' body and 'finer' faculties latent in normal man, but capable of being developed and made patent by 'mystic' disciplines and special 'education'; and about details of cosmic and human evolution, through vast eons and cycles. Two passages from these two works are reproduced below.

"Kapila, Orpheus, Pythagoras, Plato, Basilides, Marcian, Ammonius, and Plotinus, founded schools and sowed the germs of many a noble thought, and disappearing, left behind them the resplendence of demi-gods. But the three personalities of Krshna, Gautama (Buddha), and Jesus appeared like true

gods, each in his epoch, and bequeathed to humanity, three religions built on the imperishable rock of ages. That all three . . . have in time become adulterated, is no fault of . . . the noble Reformers. It is priestly self-styled husbandmen of the 'vine of the Lord' who must be held to account by future generations. Purify the three systems of the dross of human dogmas, the *pure essence* remaining will be found to be *identical*": *Isis Unveiled*, II, 536).

"Esoteric Philosophy reconciles all religions, strips every one of its outward human garments, and shows the *root of each* to be *identical* with that of *every other great religion*:" (*The Secret Doctrine*, I, 45).

This Note on Texts may be closed with a few other striking quotations.

"Every Scripture inspired of God is profitable,
for teaching, for reproof, for correction,
for instruction which in in righteousness,
that the man of God may be complete,
furnished completely unto every good work."

(B., 2 Timothy, 3. 16-17, THR. p v.)

"We believe in what hath been revealed to us and revealed to you. Our God and your God is One, and to Him are we Self-surrendered." (Q., 29 , 45).

"Alcott was the third most conspicuous member of the Concord Orientalists (Emerson and Thoreau

being the other two) . . . As Dean of the Concord Summer School of Philosophy, Alcott worked to promulgate mystic lore . . He described, in his *Tablets*, the project which was near his heart all his life 'Very desirable it were, since the gates of the East are now opening wide, giving free commerce of mind with mind, to collect and compare the Bibles of the races for general circulation and careful reading . . Of the *Bhāgavata Purāna*, Emerson said, 'Ah, this is a book to read on one's knees!' . . . He used to keep a copy of an English translation of the *Bhagavad-Gītā* under his pillow at night . . . Thoreau wrote 'The reading I love best is the Scriptures of the several nations, though it happens I am better acquainted with those of the Hindus, the Chinese, and the Persians, than of the Hebrews, which I have come to, last' . . ." Art. 'From Vedic India to Concord, U. S. A.', by Dr. Christy and Dr. Canby, reprinted in *Hindustān Times* (New Delhi, of 20-6-1944)

The Heart of Humanity is intensely a-search for the Gospel which embraces all gospels . This book endeavours to present it in the very words of the Speakers of all the Gospels. May They give it their blessing and speed it on its mission of service to Humanity.

SYSTEM OF PRONUNCIATION

System of pronunciation followed in the Roman transcript confines itself to simple differences. More nice and subtle ones have not been taken account of. Thus, there are three shades of 's' in Arabic-Persian; they are all transcribed by 's' here. So four kinds of 'z', two of 'h' two of soft 't,' are rendered by one 'z', one 'h,' one 't'. So two kinds of 'sh' in Samskr̥t are both transcribed as 'sh'. Arabic gutturals of e, i, o, u, have also not been marked; that of 'a' has been as 'a'

Samskr̥t letters are rendered as below

a, as in similar, solar, <i>e.g.</i> ,	i, somewhat as in iron.
the sound of u in fur, cut, shut	e as in get, jet, fetch é, as 'a' in fate.
ā, far, car.	ai, somewhat like i in
i, fit, sit	ight, fight, right
ī, elite, sound of ee. in meet, feet, sheet.	o, go.
u, put, sound of oo in foot	d, daughter, dame
ū, flute, sound of oo in shoot, hoot.	dh, madhouse, n, (n and d combined in a click-sound).
	t, petit, (soft t).

th, think (without sibilance).	jh, bridge-head ñ, cañyon.
d, there, that (minus sibilance)	t, tit, talk.
au, somewhat as in how, cow.	th, get-home.
am, like um in jump, hump, bumper	ph, lip-homage. b, bless, beam
k, king, ken	bh, hobhouse, abhor.
kh, buckhorn, inkhorn	m, musk.
g, get, gain	y, yes, you.
gh, big-horn, fog-horn, Birmingham.	r, run.
ng, bring, sing.	l, lamb.
ch, churn, chaste	v or w, win.
chh, rich-house, fetch-him	sh, shine.
j, joy, jam.	dh, bid-him (soft d). n, nephew, niece.
	p, pan, pass.
	s, sun, son.
	h, hand, heaven.

Special sounds of Arabic-Persian are.

kh, aspirate of k, like the German ach, or Scottish loch	gh, guttural of g. f, fun.
a', guttural of a.	q, guttural of k. z, zephyr.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

(B), *Bible*, (O. T., Old Testament, Hebrew, O. T. and N. T., New Testament, Christian).

(BB), Dr. F. L. Riley's *The Bible of Bibles*, published in 1929, by J. F. Rowny Press, Los Angeles.
(See pp. lvi-lv)

(Bh.), *Bhāgavata*, one of 18 *Purāṇas*, sacred books of legends and traditional histories of Cosmos and of Human Race, which form part of the Scriptures of Vaidika Dharma, or Vēdism ('Hinduism').

(Bu), Buddhist Sacred Books.

(C), Confucian Works

(Dh), *Dhamma-pāda*, a Buddhist Scripture.

(ERE.), *Encyclopædia of Religion and Ethics*, in 13 vols, edited by Dr. Hastings

(G), *Gītā*, i.e., *Bhagavad-Gītā*, the most widely known of Vēdist Scriptures.

(Gr.), *Guru-Grantha-Sāhab*, Scripture of Sikhism

(H), *Hadīs*, Sayings of Muhammad

- (J), Jaina Sacred Books
M. Vānī, Mahāvīra-Vānī, Collections of
 verses uttered by Mahāvīra Jina.
Tīrthakara Vardhamāna (also called
 Mahāvīra), biography as well as sayings
 of Jina.
- (Ju.), Sacred writings of Judaism, Hebraism, or
 Jewish Religion, like *Talmūd* or Com-
 mentaries on *O T*, and Qabbālāh or
 Kabbala, a compilation of writings of
 Jewish Mystics.
- (K), Kabbala, i.e., Qabbālāh
- (M), *Manu-Smṛti*, oldest living law book of
 the world, revered by Hindū-s like
Vēda-s.
- (Mbh), *Mahā-bhārata*, 'Great Epic' of the 'Great
 War' between Pāndava-s and Kaurava-s,
 which ranks with *Manu-Smṛti* in Hindū
 estimation.
- (Q), *Quān*, often written in English as *Koran* ;
 chief Scripture or Islām of Moham-
 medanism
- (R), *Rāmāyana*, 'Epic' of the War of Rāma
 and Rāvana, which is ranked, by Hindū-s,
 with *Mahābhārata* and *Purāna-s*. These
 three make up '*Itihāsa-Purāna*', i.e.,
 Ancient History of Cosmos and Man.
- (S), Sūfi writings.

(SBE), *Sacred Books of the East Series*, edited by Max Muller.

(Sh.), Shintoism.

(Si.), Sikh writings, among which *Guru-Grantha-Sāhab* is chief Scripture

(T.), Scriptures of Taoism, among which *Tao-Teh-King* of Lāo-tse is chief.

(THR.), *Treasure-House of the Living Religions*, published in 1933, by Charles Scribner's Sons, New York and London (iii-iv)

(U.), *Upanishat s*, philosophical and psychological parts of *Vēda-s*

(V.), *Vēda-s*; four, *Rg-Vēda*, *Yajur-Vēda*, *Sāma-Vēda*, *Atharva Vēda*; chief Scriptures of Hindū-s

(Z.), Zoroastrian Scriptures, *Zend-Avestā* in particular, of which the chapters known as *Gāthā*, are regarded as direct utterance of Zarathustra. *Zend* is regarded as main text, and *Avestā*, as commentary, but inseparable. 'Zend,' has also become name of the language in which that main text is written Skt. equivalent is chhanda, 'metre', 'rhyme'

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Languages of Scriptures

Vēdic, archaic or modern Samskr̥t (Skt.) ; Zoroastrian, Zend ; Jewish (O.T.), Hebrew ; Buddhist, Pali and Skt. ; Jaina, Prākṛt and Skt. ; Christian (N.T.), Aramaic ; Islāmic, Arabic (Ar.) and Persian (Per.) ; Sikh, Gurmukhī and one or another dialect of Hindī ; Laotism and Confucianism, Chinese ; Shintoism, Japanese.

VERIFICATION OF REFERENCES

After first edition was published, some friends wrote that textual references should have been given more precisely, by chapter and verse. The difficult conditions, unfavorable to scholarly detail and exactitude, under which this compilation has been made, have been mentioned before. But the reader, who has inclination and leisure, will be able to verify most of the texts quoted, with the help of the following.

Jacob's Concordance to the Upanishats and the Bhagavad-Gītā

Vishvēshvar-ānanda and Nity-ānanda's Alphabetical Index of the Four Vēdas

Any good Concordance to the Bible.

Concordance to the Qūrān (Mifta-ul-Qūrān), by Rev Ahmad Shāh, or any other good Kitāb-i-Qurān

Manu-pād-ānu-kramanī, Concordance to the verse-quarters of Manu-Smṛti, (published by Gyān-mandal, Banaras).

J M Chatterjee's and A N. Bilimoria's edition of Gāthā

Treasure-House of Living Religions by R E Hume

ADDENDA ET CORRIGENDA

Some mistakes likely to perplex the reader, and their corrections, also a few additions, are noted below.

<i>Page</i>	<i>Line</i>	<i>For</i>	<i>Read</i>
20	last	5-6	7 8
60	20	niddi	ziddi
64	Page- heading	Ineradicale	Ineradicable
94	24	he	ke
126	9	(Q)	(S)
143	after 1 22 add		"He that hath seen Me (the I) hath seen the Fa- ther" John, XIV 9. " (The) I am (is) the Way, the Truth, and the Life"; John, XIV 6. "Your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you", I Corinthians, VI 19 "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?", I Corinthians, III 16 : :

"Ye are the temple of the
living God". II Corin-
thians, vi, 16

167	14	Parulum	Parvulum
169	last	thousand	thousand and five hundred
212	13	22 et seq	31-32
237	23	Bāparā	Bāqarā
264	18	Ency	Hastings' Ency.
297	7	My-Selfs	My-Self
298	14	ta	ta
323	28	Monism— 'Matter'	Monism 'Matter'
345	3	hum	Him
353	2	spuce	space
361	Page- heading	Mahāvēra's	Mahāvīra's
378	21	—āt	—āt
389	7	eve	éva
390	3	dhañtri	ḍbhātri
390	23	savītā	savitā
407	23	yabmāi	yabmāi cbiṭ
407	25	yasmaī	yasmaī cbiṭ
417	12	ḍaḍamānād	ḍaḍamānād
438	27	A-varapa	Ā-varapa
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**INVOCATION OF THE ONE SUPREME SPIRIT OF
UNITY**

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APPRECIATION

I

BY

BHĀRAT-RATNA SHRĪ C. RĀJAGOPĀLĀCHĀRĪ

(*First and last Indian Governor-General of India*)

IT is easy to perceive in a vague way the essential unity of all the great religions of the world and to hold that differences in forms of worship or in names do not matter.

'Bhārat-Ratna' is the highest of a series of four titles and distinctions created by the Government of India for bestowal on civilians for outstandingly distinguished work of some kind. Another series has been created for military men. So far, 'Bhārat-Ratna' has been conferred on six persons, Shri C. Rajagopalachari (75 years old), Dr. Sir Radhakrishnan, (67), Sir C. V. Raman (Noble Laureate, 67), Sir M. Visveshvarayya (94), Dr Bhagavan Das (86), and Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru (Prime Minister of India, 66).

MANAGER,
Theosophical Publishing House

But to arrive at this truth through actual research and analytical study requires the scholarship and untiring application of a man like Dr. Bhagavān Dās, the venerable philosopher of Banāras.

Newton simplified the complexities of the physical universe by formulating the law of gravitation. So did Darwin explain the existence of the myriad varieties of life on this planet by his principle of natural selection. But Newton and Darwin did not achieve this splendid simplification by a mere guess. Behind the enunciation of their very simple looking discoveries lay laborious observation, deep thought, and accurate examination. Dr. Bhagavān Dās's book on the Essential Unity of all Religions is similarly the product of very laborious study and analysis and is not merely the formulation of a good and likely idea. It is a great book that the doctor has given to philosophers and pious men for reverent study.

C. RAJAGOPALACHARI

II

By BHĀRAT-RATNA DR. SIR S. RĀDHĀKRISHNAN

(*Vice-President of India*)

If the world is to be brought together it is only on the basis of mutual understanding, especially in matters of fundamental belief. Any book which points out that there is a transcendent unity of religions in spite of empirical diversity helps towards inter-religious understanding. Pursuit of wisdom i.e., philosophical understanding of the nature of ultimate reality and the practice of love irrespective of distinctions of caste, creed and community, these are the basic assumptions of all living faiths. Dr. Bhagavān Dās with his encyclopaedic knowledge of the origin and growth of different religions has in his *The Essential Unity of All Religions* made a notable contribution towards the bringing of peoples together on the plane of mind and

spirit. It is my earnest hope that his book will be read by young and old in all parts of the world.

S. RADHAKRISHNAN,
(New Delhi, 3-4-1955)

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hold on the mind of millions of men and women, but its potentiality for mischief has not altogether disappeared.

While religion as a cause of war between nations and countries has receded to some extent in the background, nationality based on race and territory has taken its place. The desire for material well-being and prosperity of a nation added another important and significant factor—the economic factor—as an incentive and justification for one nation fighting against another. The world has not yet outgrown this phase in human history.

In the world of today another equally important, equally significant, and equally strong motive is supplied by different ideologies regarding the ideal to be pursued and the method by which it can be achieved for the well-being and prosperity of man. This has gripped mankind at the present moment.

These three dominant elements are not exclusive, and run into one another in determining man's actions, but also, in point of time and space, have been operating together with more or less force at all times and in all countries. The world today is not immune

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than a thousand quotations of texts from the most honoured Scriptures of all the eleven living religions of the world, that all these religions are really identical in their essential teachings and injunctions. All these texts are arranged systematically in three parts : I. The Way of Knowledge, II., The Way of Devotion, III., The Way of Works, which also are shown to be common to all religions. It, therefore, behoves all well-wishers of humanity to study it and, if satisfied of its worth, to spread the Scriptural teachings embodied in it. I have no doubt that an authoritative exposition of the Essentials of all Religions, based on the most authoritative texts, can surely be counted upon as an effective means for eliminating conflicts, based very largely, as they are, on misunderstanding and ignorance. I strongly recommend a dispassionate study of this book as a solvent for many of the difficulties which confront man today.

20th June 1955.

RĀJENDRA PRASĀD

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Human beings, all, are as head, arms, trunk, and legs unto one another (Véda)

No man liveth unto himself. We are all parts of one another. God hath made of one blood all nations that dwell upon the face of the earth. (Bible).

All creatures are members of the one family of God. (Qurān).

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(The One God hidden in all living beings,
 The Living Witness biding in all hearts—
 The Wise who seek and find Him in them-Self,
 To them, and None Else, is Eternal Joy

The all-pervading Inner Self of all,
 Who from His Formlessness creates all Forms—
 The Wise who see that One within them-Self,
 To them alone belongs Eternal Joy.

Eternity of aeons, Life of lives,
 The One who all the Many's wishes sates—
 The Wise who Him within them-Self behold
 Theirs, and None Other's is Eternal Peace.

The Colourless, who from His secret store
 Exhaustless, countless colours draws, to paint,
 Efface, repaint, the worlds upon the face
 Of Empty Space with Mystic Potency—
 May He endow us with the lucid mind !)

Turfa Bé-rangī ke dārad
 rang-hā-é sad hazār !
 Turfa Bé-shaklī ke dārad
 shakl-hā-é bé-shumār !

Ba nāmē Ān ke Ū nāmē na dārad,
 Ba har nāmē ke khwānī sar bar ārad,
 Ba nāmē Ān ke Wāhid dar Kasīr ast,
 Ke andar Wahdat-Ash Kasrat asīr ast ! (S.)

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Bismillāh-ir-Rahmān-ir-Rahīm. Al-hamdu lillāhi
Rabb-il-ālīmīn ! Ar-Rahmān-ir-Rahīm ! Mālik-i-
yaum-iddīn ! Iyyāka na'budū, wa iyyāka nastā'īn.
Ihdī-nas-sirātul-mustaqīm. Sirāt-allazzīna ana'mta
a'laihīm, ghair-il-maghzub-i-a'laihīm wa lā-azzālin.
Āmīn (Q.)

(Lord of Compassion ! All praise unto Thee !
Creator and Protector of the worlds !
Lord God ! Beneficent and Merciful !
Master Supreme of the great Judgment Day !
Thee do we serve and Thee beseech for help ;
Show us the Path on which Thy blessings rest ;
The *Straight Path* ; not of those who go astray,
On whom descend Thy wrath and punishment.)

Apāna daiégo jyāltīm, ā kshathrēm vanghéush
manangho, ashāt ā éréjush patho, yaéshū Mazadāo
Ahuro shaéti. (*Gāthā*)

(Grant us long life, Great Lord !, and fortitude,
And the right mind, and show us the *Straight Path*,
O'er which Thou broodest, and which leads to Thee !)

Hear, O Lord !, my cry, give ear unto my prayer,
that goeth not out of feigned lips Hold up my
goings in Thy Paths, that my footsteps slip not.
Show me Thy Ways, O Lord !, teach me Thy

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religions ; of *Védas* and *Upamshats*, the most ancient available records of passionately yearning and deeply searching human thought , of *Qurān*, and of Sūfis, the most poetical and beautiful exponents of that thought ; and *Zend-Āvestā*, *Bible*, the *Guru Grantha Sāhab* ; begin with ardent invocation of, and fervent prayer to, the One Supreme Spirit of Life. That Supreme Spirit, out of its Unity, creates the infinite Many-ness of Nature ; and, at the same time, It imposes Its all-pervading, all-embracing, Unity upon that countless Multitude By that Unity, It binds atoms and cells into tissues, organs, bodies, bodies into species, genera, kingdoms, ties these to planets ; planets to suns, in solar systems, these to larger systems ; chains these into vast star-galaxies ; and makes of all the infinite World-process, a Uni-verse It enters into these dead dolls of bone and blood and flesh that we otherwise are, and endows us with the mind that can encompass all these countless systems. That Spirit, indeed, dwelling hidden in the hearts of all, makes it possible for these dolls to understand, and sympathize with, and help each other, in the difficulties of life It is the One sole source of whatever Unity there is in all human thought The realization of It alone, as eternally present, in one-Self and in all-selves, brings deathless happiness and peace, as nothing else can do. May that Universal

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(2) by directing attention to the need for the study of the inner nature, as much as the outer, of the human being as such, and (3) by reuniting the peoples of all countries, without distinction of creed, caste, colour, race, or sex, in a Universal Brotherhood, which alone can give sincerity and real life and fulfilment to the work of the League of Nations. Such Universal Brotherhood alone can do so, by supplying the Spiritual half of that Whole, of which the League of Nations represents only the Material (hence almost useless) half, by creating a League of Religions, and linking it with the League of Nations.

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is mostly a profound philosophy, the same in essence as Vedānta-Yoga and Tasawwuf, its practical side is Confucianism. Shintoism, nobly regarding man as

it prescribes a rule of conduct, it inevitably loses its hold. The Catholic System scarce leaves an hour without its stated duties, such and such forms to be gone through, such and such prayers to be repeated Night and day, morning and evening, at meals and in the intervals between meals, the Catholic is reminded of his creed by a set form. Calvinism superseded these formal observances by yet more noble practical observances It was ever present with its behests in fixing the scale of permitted expenditure, in regulating the dress, the enjoyments, the hours of sleep and labor, sternly cutting short all idle pleasure and luxury, sternly insisting on the right performance of all practical work, the trade, the handicraft, or whatever it might be, as something for every thread and fibre of which a man would one day be called to account .*Religion is the wholesome ordering of human life, the guide to furnish us with our daily duties in the round of common occupation, the lamp to light us along our road and to show us where to place our steps "* Froude, *Short Studies in Great Subjects*, III, pp 154, 198.

All religions endeavour, suitably to the conditions amidst which they take their birth and grow, to fulfil this ideal duty, but unfortunately, bye and bye, the custodians of each and every religion begin to do the 'ordering' too much, become over-conservative, rigid, narrow, domineering, greedy, immoral, despotic, lose elastic touch with changing times, forget the essentials, insist over-much on non-essentials, and thus corrupt the religion by their own excesses Then 'politics' and 'science' begin to do the 'ordering', and go to perhaps even worse excesses and extremes

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Contrary to this, in the West, advanced thought was, until very recently, cutting itself off, more and more, from all concern with the possibility of things beyond the reach of our physical senses; excepting, of course, some very meta-physical 'abstract concepts', which, somehow, indispensably constitute the very roots of the various most positive sciences, and are a perpetual reminder, to the thoughtful, of inseparable connection between physical and meta-physical, concepts like arithmetical 'one, two, three, etc., and zero', geometrical 'point, line, surface'; dynamical 'force, energy, attraction, repulsion'; physical 'atom, electron', chemical 'affinity', biological 'life', psychological 'ego, I, we, will,

and of marble inlaid with gems—the country whose enterprising merchants supplied, by sea as well as land, the requirements of Persia, Palestine, Egypt, and Rome, in the west, and exchanged things of art with China, Siam, Burma and Japan, in the east. Indeed, it was this wealth and luxury, and this reputation, which led to her degradation, brought invasions, oppression, exploitation, and, worse than all else, despiritualisation and demoralisation. In happier times, India's other worldliness only illumined and softened, as with moonlight, her this-worldliness, transfigured it, filled it with reverence for God's Nature in all Its manifestations, and made her People see, not the things of the Spirit with the eyes of the flesh, but the things of the flesh with the eyes of the Spirit. To recover those days of peaceful and prosperous happiness, she must first recover her soul by realising anew the Essence of Religion and the Essential Unity of all Religions.

III

BY HON'BLE JUSTICE SIR ZAFRULLA KHAN

(International Court of Justice, the Hague, Holland)

I VALUE *The Essential Unity of All Religions* highly, as I believe that the appreciation of the beauties of the great Faiths is one of the most potent means of promoting International understanding upon which the structure of enduring peace can be built. I trust means will be found to give the widest circulation to the fifth edition which you say is under preparation. I shall look forward to reading it again in the latest edition.

ZAFRULLA KHAN

(Letter to author D/ 25-8-1955)

On the other hand, to the hasty sight of another, it would appear that, e.g., in such a vitally important science as that of medicine, doctors disagree very much, that the more expert and scientific they are, the more intensely they differ, and that radically conflicting systems of treatment kill and cure, with much the same average of results, on the whole. In the system which regards itself as most scientific and up-to-date, theories as to the nature and cause of disease, methods of treatment, and drugs in favour and fashion, change from year to year. In almost all other sciences, pure and applied, old views and appliances are being daily scrapped in favour of new; the greater and more rapid the scrapping, the louder the vaunt of progressiveness, even in a rock-bottom science like mathematics, self-evident axioms are now in peril of their lives from the attacks of new theories; and in sociological sciences especially, the war of ideas, of words, of 'isms', is maddeningly internecine.

Indeed, Science has its ritual, its etiquette, its sacrosanct formalities, its mysterious technicalities, its sanctums, its oracular pomposity and superior stand-offishness, its popish infallibility, its expertcraft, its jingoism and fanaticism, as much as Religion; its controversial animus as bitter as the *odium theologicum*, and, becoming religionless and Godless, it has, as debased servant of imperialism,

At a time when nations are at war with one another, when there is endless conflict going on between diverse creeds, works of the kind which prove that religion has its roots in unity and not strife are indispensable. Dr. Bhagavān Dās has brought to light the great identities of thought in all the great religions of the world, and has drawn freely from the writings of such Masters as Manu, Krshna, Vyāsa, Zoroāster, Moses, Confucius, Buddha, Christ, Muhammad, and Nānak. One great difficulty met with, in the introduction of religious teaching in schools, is apprehension of a likely clash between pupils pursuing diverse faiths. This difficulty can be easily overcome by publication of textbooks of the kind suggested by Dr. Bhagavān Dās. There are numerous parallel texts from Scriptures of the several religions, and he lays stress on the resemblances, rather than on the differences which cover non-essentials.

Review in THEOSOPHICAL NEWS AND NOTES, for July-August, 1940, (50, Gloucester Place, London, W 1)

Those who know the scholarly work of Dr. Bhagavān Dās will welcome this new edition of his book, first published in 1932 and now greatly enlarged. Dr. Dās shows, by copious extracts, that in essentials all the great faiths are united. He points out that it is a mark of youth to wish to be peculiar and to claim to be the sole repository of truth. He considers that the hope of the future lies in the choice of teachers who are imbued with love of God and of humanity, and his chapter on Education should be carefully read and applied. Extracts

also. No two faces, no two bodies, no two voices, manners, gaits, tree-leaves, grass-blades, are exactly similar. Even so, no two minds coincide completely. The Principle of Multiplicity in Nature sees to that. But, all the same, there is a broad general similarity too, between all human faces, figures, voices, feelings, thinkings, actings, leaves, and grasses. This alone makes it possible for human beings to understand one another, and to live together as a civilised society. The Principle of Unity, which governs Nature, is the source of such civilised association and sympathy. To recognise that Unity in the Essentials of all Religions, is to promote the cause of Civilisation.

Those who thus discern the Truth, will always make it their duty, as lovers of the mankind of East and West alike, to do their best to maximise and glorify the Spirit of Unity, and sub-ordinate (not abolish, which is impossible) the principle of Multiplicity to It. Such Spirit of Unity, in Europe, is witnessed by common science and culture, and, in Asia, by the fact that our brothers and sisters come from Tibet, Siam, Burma, and distant China and far-off Japan, to worship the holy memory of Buddha Gautama at the Deer-Park in Banaras, (which ancient-most of living towns is the most holy place of Pilgrimage for all Hindūs), and at

The One Way
to Peace on
Earth

are taken from the sacred books of the eleven living religions, and they are given in the original languages as well as in English. It would be impertinent to congratulate the compiler on *this valuable book a storehouse of information* which should be studied by all who wish to understand the real basis of our belief in the Universal Brotherhood of Humanity.

Review in LEADER, D/ Allahabad, 28-5-1940

Religion has been and shall remain one of the most potent forces that have elevated and ennobled the human mind. Throughout the ages it has inspired the noblest of deeds characterised by love, sacrifice, and service, while it has also been the greatest sustaining force in the dark hours of struggle, sorrow, and disappointment. It is religion, more than anything else, that has lifted man from the plane of animals and enabled the great progress that he has made. But there is also another side of the picture. Man's devotion to his religion has not always been as tolerant as it should have been. Its narrow conception has often made its votary forget that his religion is only one of the different ways of realizing God and serving his fellow human beings. Result has been degeneration of religion into fanaticism and shedding of innocent blood. Thinkers in different countries, owing allegiance to different creeds, have therefore been feeling that something must be done to bring out the Fundamental Unity of all Religions, that may help in promoting the idea of the Brotherhood of Man, which, emanating from the Fatherhood of God, is the highest truth of religion, and without an active realization of

promoting this so desirable peace, harmony, and unity between all countries, and between all sections of their populations, is to prove, and bring home to all, Unity between Science and Religion, and between religion and religion ; and, secondly, to place, before the world, a Religio-Scientific Scheme of Social Organisation and Planned Individual Life, which will secure, for different temperaments, and different ages in each lifetime, appropriate occupations, and means of livelihood, and necessities of life at least, for all Thus only can indispensable Spiritual Bread, as well as Material Bread, be provided to all.

Some persons, disgusted with religious conflict, speak hastily of abolishing religion to allay that conflict As well kill the body to cure disease To uproot religion successfully, they must first exterminate Pain and Death. So long as human beings experience and fear these, they will not cease to crave the consolations of religion Also, so long as men and women are left, are encouraged, are even positively taught, to believe that religions *differ*, even in *essentials*, so long will they, as followers of such *different* religions, also necessarily continue to *differ*, to fight, to shed each other's blood If, *per contra*, they are led to see that *all religions are one in essentials*, they will also surely become one in heart, and realise their common humanity in a loving Brotherhood.

which, humanity cannot achieve the bright future which is in store for it

Dr Bhagavān Dās has long been interested in this important subject, and has never missed an opportunity to push forward the idea of the unity of religions. Recently, he has brought out the second and greatly enlarged edition of his book, *The Essential Unity of All Religions*, dealing with this most important subject. It is the result of laborious study and cool thinking spread over a long period, and brings together 1150 parallel texts, from the sacred writings of the eleven great living religions of the world, in the original, with their English translations. A running commentary systematises, interweaves, expounds and elucidates them all.

The book, which has been spoken of highly by distinguished men like Dr Rabindranāth Tagore, Sir S Rādhākrishnan, and Sir Muhammad Iqbāl, to name only a few, should serve a very useful purpose in this age of materialism, specially in this country, which has given shelter to followers of several creeds, and which is often the scene of bad blood due to communal conflicts which are generally attributed to religious differences.

Review in HINDŪ OUTLOOK, New Delhi,

* D/27-4-1940

Modern India requires no sort of literature more than the one under review, dealing with the oft-repeated, but as often neglected, subject of Fundamental Unity in spite of Apparent Diversity of the Religions of the world.

decayed, side by side. We may well regard the two as cause and effect. But what is regarded as the birth of a new religion, is really only a re-proclamation, and re-vivification even more, by the extraordinary personality, the intense fervour, 'divine fire', *eu-thus-(Theos)-asm*, 'God-filled-ness', *tapas*, *jazbah*, self-sacrifice, high heart-compelling example, of the re-proclaimer. It is a fresh declaration, in new words, and a fresh en-live-ning thereby, of the *Essential Eternal Universal Religion*, and it is made necessary by the fact that the earlier proclamation had become covered up, beyond recognition, with non-essential, lifeless, misleading, harmful formalisms.

The fresh proclamation, needed for the present time, seems likely to take the form of Scientific Religion in a pre-eminent degree. And it apparently has to be made on somewhat 'socialist and democratic', rather than 'individualist' lines; such lines as the Oversoul of the Human Race is taking in other departments of its vast life, that is to say, it has to be made, and, indeed, is being slowly, gradually, almost imperceptibly, made, by the large body of scientific and religious thinkers in co-operation as a whole, rather than by a single individual; though leaders are needed even by the most democratic movements¹.

¹ Associations form, now and then, with such religio-scientific objects as those indicated on pp. 5-6 *supra*.

In the seven chapters of the book, the author describes Religious Science and Scientific Religion, the Intellectual, Emotional, and Volitional Constituents of Religion, the One Way to Peace on Earth and Goodwill among Men, and the bearing of Religion on Education.

Dr Bhagavān Dās has dived deep into the teachings of the great masters of all the living religions. To meet the contention of some scholars, that religions of later birth have copied from the earlier, he says, "Is it not because there is one Eternal Truth for all to copy? New generations are born from old, new nations grow out of colonies from old, new lamps are lighted from old, but the Life, the Light, the Might, which is only embodied in and expressed by the ever-changing forms, is beyond them all, is originated by none of them, but originates them all. It is an honour and a duty to copy if what is copied is truth; it were a disgrace to be original if what is originated is false". To any fanatics who are labouring to believe that their religion is superior to that of others, a perusal of the book cannot but bring a change of heart.

The book is very inspiring in its ideals and the method of presentation quite delightful. It is replete with quotations from all the Scriptures of the world, which makes the work a valuable asset to religious scholars.

Review in HINDŪ (Madras), D/10-3-1940

This is a valuable book which contains the mellow views of a great scholar on the greatest of all themes. Dr Bhagavān Dās says well in his Foreword. "Asiatic thought is deeply tinged with religion. Asia has given

Psychical Research was founded.¹ Sir Oliver Lodge, venerable veteran of world-wide fame in the realm of science, has said.²

"The time will assuredly come when these avenues into unknown regions will be explored by science; and there are some who think that the time is drawing nigh when that may be expected to happen. The universe is a more *spiritual* entity than we thought. The real fact is that we are in the midst of a *spiritual* world which dominates the material. It constitutes the great and ever-present reality whose powers we are only beginning to realize. They might indeed be terrifying had we not been assured for our consolation that their tremendous energies are all controlled by a Beneficent Fatherly Power whose name is Love."

Some other older, as also more recent, declarations of faith by eminent front-rank scientists of the time may be cited.

Sir James Jeans, mathematician and astronomer, Cambridge and Princeton, secretary for many years to the Royal Society of Great Britain, says: "The Universe begins to look more like a great *Thought*

¹ Enc. Brit., 14th edn., art 'Psychical Research', gives a fair and comprehensive account, up to 1928. G. N. M. Tyrrel's *Science and Psychical Phenomena* was published in 1938.

² At Bristol, on 7 Sep., 1930. He passed away in 1940, at the age of 89.

birth to all the great living religions". His attempt is to bring together parallel texts from the various Scriptures and to prove identities and similarities therein.

The truth is that Philosophy is the mediator between Religion and Science. Philosophy will teach us to realise the harmony of all religions, and the harmony of religion and science. The author says in noble words "Here comes the use of well-planned religious instruction as the most potent instrument for the moral regeneration of mankind. Humanism, internationalism, inter-religionism go together, and are only aspects of each other".

The author then proceeds to discuss the Way of Knowledge or the Intellectual constituent of religion, the Way of Devotion or the Emotional constituent of religion and the Way of Works or the Volitional constituent of religion.

The author asks Educationists to work for soul-force, and Scientists to combine Spiritual Science with Material Science. He says aptly in conclusion "The one purpose of religion is to bind the hearts of human beings to each other and to God and the realisation of the Self in all as the God in all, and the consequent service of all as the service of God, is the Perfection and Completion of Religion".

Review in THEOSOPHIST (Adyar, Madras), for November, 1940

Friends of the learned author all the world over will welcome another book, stamped with his inimitable seal of mellow wisdom, occasional gentle satire, and supreme

the last paragraphs of his book, *The Mysterious Universe*, (1937), he says. "The new knowledge compels us to revise our first hasty impressions . . . The old dualism of Mind and Matter . . . seems likely to disappear . . through substantial Matter resolving itself into a creation and manifestation of Mind."

Prof. Eve, at p. 65 of *The Great Design*, a symposium edited by F. Mason (1936), says. "Most men today are engrossed in some one particular profession or occupation. . . It is doubtful if any group of men, except perhaps a few philosophers, is engaged in fitting together the jigsaw or patch-work puzzle of the mutitudinous discoveries and theories of all our diverse branches of knowledge, thought is thus divided into water-tight compartments, between which the communications are blocked."¹

Another scientist of note, Prof. Sir A. S. Eddington, has very recently confessed: "Something Unknown is doing we don't know what—that is what our

¹ The philosophical, religious, and at the same time scientific principles, by means of which all possible, even contradictory seeming, views and things were reconciled by ancient Indian Seers, and 'scientific determinist causation' as well as 'free will' explained and combined in 'auto-matism'—these principles, of ancient Indian thought, are attempted to be set forth in the present writer's *The Science of the Self* (1938) and *The Science of Peace* (3rd edn 1948).

sanity of common sense. As a compendium of apposite excerpts from world-famed Scriptures and poems, this would be invaluable for any lecturer who is trying to spread the healing message of which the stricken world is most in need just now, namely, Knowledge of the Unity and Spiritual Purpose of Life, and its identity of expression in all great religions. The dominant note throughout is the urgent need for strengthening of religion, not by emphasis on creeds and technical differences but by recognition of the underlying unity, and by mystic realization of essential truths. . .

Senor U. M SAENZ MORA (of San Jose, Costa Rica),
16-5-1940.

. . . It is a great pleasure to have this volume among our books, and it will be a great help in our studies. We are certain that all our members will derive great pleasure and learning from it . .

MISS ETHEA SNODGRASS (of Wheaton, Illinois),
27-5 1940.

. . . We are genuinely glad to have this book added to our shelves to be made available to all who will seek its wisdom . . I also thank you for the spirit of unselfish service . in which you release the book (from copyright) so freely to all the world. . .

Mme. EUGENIA VASILESCU (of Bucharest, Rumania),
17-4-1940:

. Your book meets a serious need for us Often members have complained of not having sufficient material for study of Comparative Religion Your work is a splendid answer to this need.

his faith in Spirit as governing Matter, and in the fact that the greatest discoveries have been due to special influxes of Spirit, (*āvēshā-s* or *avatāras*).

In *The Great Design* (1934), edited by F. Mason, an Introduction and a concluding chapter by Sir J. A. Thomson, great biologist, fourteen renowned scientists have written short articles summing up their life's researches. All agree that the world is not a soulless mechanism, and is not the work of blind chance; that there is a Mind behind the veil of Matter, give it what name we will. The scientists are R. G. Allen, Director of Lick Observatory, astronomer, J. A. Crowther, professor of physics, University of Cambridge, A S Eve, professor of physics, McGill University; Baillie Willis, professor of geology, Johns Hopkins University and University of Chicago; C. Lloyd Morgan, professor of psychology, University of Bristol, E W. McBride, professor of geology, Imperial College of Science, London, C. S. Gayer, Director, Brooklyn Botanical Gardens, H. E. Armstrong, *emeritus* professor of chemistry, City College, London, M. M. Metcalf, *emeritus* professor of zoology, Oberlin College, and research associate, Johns Hopkins University, Sir Oliver Lodge (born 1851) *emeritus* professor of physics, Oxford and Cambridge; Sir Francis Younghusband, retired army-General, traveller, humanist, D. S Fraser-Harris, *emeritus*

Mme JEANNE SYLVIE LEREVRE (of Lisbon, Portugal)
writes on 13-5-1940

. . My heartiest congratulations for your work.

"This compilation of texts from all great religions is a work of rare scholarship and tireless research. It is one the long awaited books of the world, and one of overwhelming importance, in the present crisis confronting mankind . . I regard it at most valuable to the U S and the world at large . . It is the most infinitely precious on the earth. . ." Captain Rnssell Lloyd Jones (late R F A., Higganum, Middlesex County, Connecticut, U. S A.)

"Once more I am reading your *E U of All Rel's* and my thanks go flowing to you so often . . You have put in my hands the key to so much greater beauty, wisdom, and depth in our own *Bible*. . . You have opened many doors that otherwise would have remained closed to me Again and again I go back to this book and to *The Science of Peace*, and, through them, see points of deep unity in all I now read and study In the past year your *Science of Emotions* and *Science of Peace* helped to dissolve so many 'thought barriers' and also helped me to find points of co operation with very dissimilar people . . Your habit of breaking words into syllables makes them leap into new life and new and clearer meaning. These may all seem little things but they have spread illumination on so many things for myself and also, I believe, for others."

Mrs Emma S King, Letter of 4-8-1955, 108, Victoria

truth is that, not Matter, not Force, not any physical thing, but Mind, personality, is the central fact of the Universe "

Sir Arthur S Eddington, astronomer, Cambridge: "The old atheism is gone . . . Religion belongs to the realm of Spirit and Mind, and cannot be shaken"

Kirtley F Mather, geologist, Harvard "The nearest approach we have thus far made to the Ultimate, in our analysis of Matter and of Energy, indicates that the Universal Reality is Mind"

Arthur H Compton, physicist, Chicago University "An examination of the evidence seems to support the view that there is no very close correspondence between brain-activity and consciousness. It seems that our thinking is partially divorced from our brain, a conclusion which suggests, though it does not prove, the possibility of consciousness after death" (As said in *The Mahatma Letters*, p. 267 : "The flame is distinct from the log of wood which serves it temporarily as fuel" Yet solar heat is already present in the log also)

Robert A. Millikan, physicist Institute of Technology, Pasadena "God is the *Unifying Principle* of the universe No more sublime conception has been presented to the mind of man, than that which is presented by Evolution, when it re-presents Him as revealing Himself, through countless ages, in the age-long inbreathing of life into constituent Matter,

Avenue, Albert Park, S C 6, Victoria, Australia) "My friend Dr. Percy A Bona, M. D , 80 years of age, told me that if he had to live on a desert island for the rest of his life and could only have three books, *The Science of Peace* would be one of them ". Do letter of 29-9-1954.

Outside the great books of the world, by which men have tried to live, no more persuasive or heart-stirring plea for unitive living is known to me than this massive volume, and none more scholarly or documented . The author's vast learning and deep knowledge of the Scriptures of mankind make of his book itself Scripture: Henry James Forman, *The New York Times*

Sir RABINDRANĀTH TĀGORE, "Your work on Universal Religion has a profound significance for suffering humanity to-day . . . It was greatly needed to reveal the fundamental plane of unity where the human mind meets in its diverse realisation and to manifest the kinship of the great founders of religions who in different ages and countries have come with the message of the Divine Spirit of Man I am deeply grateful to you for your book "

SIR S RĀDHĀKRISHNAN (then Vice-Chancellor, Banāras Hindu University) " . . I shall certainly ask my students to read *The Essential Unity of All Religions* . . . A book like this should be made accessible to all interested in the religious future of our country "

Maulavī WĀHID HUSAIN (Advocate, High Court, Calcutta, Law Examiner, and ex-Extension Lecturer, Calcutta University , Secretary, Bengal Presidency Muhammadan Educational Conference) " I have read and re-read *The Essential Unity of All Religions* . . It is a

30 PSYCHICAL RESEARCH IN UNIVERSITIES [CH. I

and strongest of American Universities. 'Open Thou mine eyes that I may behold wondrous things out of Thy Law.' " The greatest scientists are the most reverent towards the Ultimate Mystery, the Self in All.

Leader (Allahabad) reported in April, 1937 "The Court of the London University, after much discussion, has recently accepted a very valuable library, of Psychical and Magical books, collected by Mr. Harry Price, from all over the world, which is almost unique, and is one of the most comprehensive of its kind. In giving it to the University, Mr. Price, long keenly interested in the subject, said he hoped to stimulate a desire on the part of University authorities for a fully equipped department of Psychical Research to be installed in the new London University Buildings. . . It is a fact that a number of individual scientists, in many parts of the western world, have been for years past making serious investigations of *psychic phenomena*, and that the Universities of Bonn, Leyden, Leipzig—to name only a few on the Continent—are taking a serious interest in the subject. It is stated that in Leyden, a recognised department dealing with psychical research is already established. If the phenomena are proved to be facts—and only the ignorant will deny their occurrence—then as facts they must be studied. . . The new series of evening

remarkable contribution to a more reasonable and intelligent method of arriving at the truth and unity of religious ideals. The quotations of numerous texts . , are very apt and exact . The fascinating pages of the book tend to arrest the attention at every turn and clearly bring out the important fact that the religious minds of all ages revolve in the same spiritual grooves, , that the essence of all religions is the same To the student of religious history this unique book will be especially useful. It should be widely read . The Universities of India will do well if they recommend and prescribe such books for higher study "

Ācharya Dr Sir P. C. RAY "The author .. has shown that the fundamentals of all religions are one and the same A book like this was greatly needed at present when our unfortunate country is torn asunder by bigotry and communalism I hope it will be included in the curriculum of our Colleges "

" Gives the essence of *Qurān*, *Bible*, *Gītā* . . I read it with as much care and reverence as the other three . . A marvellous book " (late Sir Ahmad Husain, M A , LL D., K C I E , C S I , formerly Private Secretary to preceding and present Nizāms of Hydārābād for over 40 years , in letter d 30-12-1943

Dr Sir MOHAMMAD IQBĀL, M A ,Ph D , Bar-at-Law "I read . extracts from your *Essential Unity of All Religions* and found them extremely interesting and instructive. I have no doubt that the book will be welcome as a real contribution to the religious thought of our country "

32 BREAKING UP OF DIVIDING BARRIERS [CH. I

Object, (—all these functionings are *facts*, remember—) the (*word*) Object, chance-ates, determines, knows, wishes, acts on the (*word*) Subject? Very well. By all means have your wish. The old way of speaking has become hackneyed, let us change it, by the simple process of *everising* or *ex-changing* the *meanings* of the words, the *facts* remaining unchanged and unchangeable. The powers and functions we now ascribe to (the word) Spirit, we shall, in future, ascribe to (the word) Matter! God did not create Matter, Matter created God! Very well. But the duality and opposition of the two *Things* will not be *abolished* that way. The transcendence, reconciliation, of that difference and polarity is the subject of Metaphysic¹.

With the breaking of fences between science and religion, and by fuller scientific thought, will come demolition of hedges between religion and religion; then it will be possible for the artificial political boundaries, only which now separate country from country, to be obliterated, (for natural physical boundaries have been nullified by radio and aeroplane), and the barriers to be cast aside which divide nation from nation in head and in heart. Then may the new civilization dawn, dreamt of by the poet and the socialist, and idealised and also practicalized by

¹ See the present writer's *The Science of Peace* or *The Science of the Self*.

Syed IBRAHIM DĀRĀ (in *Trivégy*, May-June, 1933.)
 " This book...cannot be adequately praised. It is an inspired psychic plea for the unity of all religions. . poetic in its expression like a Sūfi song, which, while expressing deep philosophical truth, has the capacity of taking the reader unawares by Beauty and giving some rare touch of the soul's inner rapture . . In a clear lucid style the author discloses to us the real aims of all our various conflicting religious strivings, and finally convinces the reader of their ultimate essential unity Replete with apt and carefully chosen quotations from almost all the Scriptures of the world, and the sayings of great religious masters and poets of rarest charm and beauty and greatest spiritual wisdom. From beginning to end, the book is delightful, captivating, inspiring."

SCIENCE OF THE SELF, (pub. 1938 , new edn. 1954)

A perusal of this book will be of immense benefit, not only to philosophers, but also to present-day reformers and politicians who have placed upon themselves the heavy responsibility of leading humanity from ignorance to knowledge, from serfdom to freedom, from miseries to peace and prosperity Prof A C Mukerji Professor of Philosophy, Allahabad University, (in *Leader*, daily of Allahabad)

One of the most scholarly and suggestive works that I have read on the subject of "The Self" in English. There is considerable freshness and originality in the presentation of the different aspects of the subject,

34 REDUCE JEALOUSY & SELFISHNESS [CH I

that there are really no foreign nations, but that the interests of all are so closely interwoven that if one nation suffers all will suffer to some extent. Undoubtedly, the maintenance of great and costly armaments is not the first essential measure required to prevent war. By far the most important requirement is *less Jealousy* and *less Selfishness* in the conduct of international affairs. That spirit is, we may hope, now gradually appearing, and when it is adequately forthcoming, and not till then, disarmament will follow rapidly and easily enough, and the nations will be at last on the road to peace and goodwill."¹

¹ Such hopes were shattered by the second World-War. Another soldier, Brig-General F P Crozier, C B, C M G., D S O., trying to inaugurate a movement called *The Imperial Peace Crusade*, in 1929, wrote "The World is slowly moving towards the desired goal of substitution of methods of Peace for methods of War. The future prosperity of the World depends on the formation of a World-opinion which will enable people to form a habit of always thinking in terms of Peace instead of in terms of War. Having studied the matter very closely, it is my desire to encourage and stimulate this mode of thought. Having spent most of my life in War, or preparing for war, I desire to devote the remainder of my life to the service of Peace." General Eisenhower, Supreme Commander of all Allied forces (except Russia's) and Marshal Montgomery, Commander-in-Chief of all British forces, were honored, after the fall of Germany, in May, 1945, by the Soviet, with an Order of Victory. Marshal Zhukov pinned the stars to their coats, on behalf of Stalin. In their reply

FOREWORD

By HIS EXCELLENCE DR. RAMESHRA PRASAD

President of India

RELIGION, instead of binding mankind together in ties of love and brotherliness, has been a fruitful cause of discord and strife between different groups of men. True there was when there were not only crusades and *jehâds* fought in the name of religion between countries and nations but also persecution of individuals who had the courage to adopt and follow other religions or not to conform to the tenets and practices of the orthodox within the fold of the same religion. The reason was that people had not cared to study and understand the fundamentals of different religions, and, instead of appreciating their essential unity, laid emphasis on differences of form. In modern times, religion may have lost some of its

There can be no worse hell than war, and these three open the triple gateway into it In accord with the realization of this fact, which is indeed obvious to eyes not blinded by those same evil motives, youth movements were started in many western countries They were intended to bring up the new generation in a purer moral and spiritual atmosphere of internationalist and humanist feeling, in place of nationalism This 'nationalism,' useful while simply defensive and self-helping, and while duly subordinated to 'humanism,' has degenerated into something very offensive, aggressive, other-harming. Indeed it is now nothing else than vulgar bullyism on a huge scale, inherently barbarous and unregenerate, and provocative of more and more murderous conflicts. It means lust-hate-greed on the nation-wide scale, instead of the small individual scale Because

nothing left by which to regulate their lives They had only themselves to please They became bored with themselves, afraid of solitude and quietness Many became obsessed with sex; and self-indulgence made them sick. They turned to any sort of dictatorship, the stricter the better, as a relief from self There is also the evil of the present economic system" As some western writer has said. "If God did not exist, we should have to invent Him, for our own safety" God, or belief, sincere belief, in God, i.e., a Spiritual Power, is man's only saviour from mutual destruction Fortunately Science and Philosophy are combining to show anew to man that God does exist, *within him* even more than *without*.

as the general public. Right Education is the foundation of all well-being, all good.

Educational institutions should not be subservient to political jingoism. Instead, they should aspire to direct politics into the path of righteousness. The scientist-priest, custodian of Spiritual Power, ought to guide, nay, command, and compel, the ruler-soldier, repository of Temporal Power, into the right use of all civil, military, political power. All such institutions, therefore, should regard it as a sacred duty to help forward, to the best of their ability, this most desirable change of tone and teaching. Here comes the use of *well-planned Religious Instruction* as the *most potent instrument* for the *Moral Regeneration* of mankind. Humanism, internationalism, inter-religionism, go together, are only aspects of each other.

Men, according to their temperaments, may, with their head, their intellect, either admire great military heroes and conquerors of history, or condemn them as predaceous marauders and butchers; probably none will offer the reverence of their heart to them. But there are few who will not offer reverent homage, with their heart, to those truest and greatest educators of mankind, by precept and by example, whom we know as Founders of the great Religions; who have ever reproclaimed the One Eternal Truth of the Unity of all; who have illustrated by their

against them and in fact is witnessing their action, reaction, and interaction in many countries simultaneously.

Every rational and thoughtful human being—particularly after the experience of two devastating world-wars and on account of the apprehension of a third, even more devastating, war—believes that peace is indispensable and necessary for individual as well as social and collective prosperity and progress and general well-being. The causes, therefore, which lie at the root of conflicts which disturb peace between nations should be eliminated as far as possible. Religion being one such potent cause, which has led to bitter conflicts, wars, and massacres throughout history, and from which all countries, including India, have suffered and continue to suffer more or less even today, deserves to be studied so that the element in it which brings about conflict is eliminated. The animosities engendered should be allayed; and nothing would help this cause more or better than the study of the essentials of all religions. This book, THE ESSENTIAL UNITY OF ALL RELIGIONS, clearly proves, by more

40 SYNTHESIS OF ALL BY GOD-SCIENCE [CH. I

The dining-hall of the great Feeder supplies edibles suited to all tastes, sweets for those who love sweets, salts for those who like salts, acids for those who want acids Let all satisfy their tastes, each his own. Why quarrel with another for not

join in constructing a spiritual and intellectual framework for the future . Hegel said that ideas had hands and feet There should be some Philosophy which would *guide the nations* . Conflict of religions could be solved by appeal to Philosophy... The philosopher could go to the different creeds, one by one, and ask them to *Emphasise the Common points* and not the differences Philosophy would help to bring the religions together The World Fellowship of Faiths is working in this direction Its first Conference was held (in Chicago, in 1933, its second) in London, in 1936, then in Oxford in 1937 .. We must *Emphasise the Points of Agreement between the Religions*, rather than the points of difference... What the world needs today, above all, is a Synthesis of Philosophy, Science, and Religion "

Védānta, 'Final Knowledge', Brahma-vidyā, 'God-Science', Atma-vidyā, 'Self-knowledge', the traditional Ancient Wisdom of India and of all countries, is just such a Synthesis For a very brief but comprehensive presentation of it in modern terms, the reader may, if he is interested, see the present writer's *Science of the Self* The present work may also be regarded as such a Synthesis, though indirectly Its main and direct purpose is to "Emphasise the Points of Agreement between the Religions" Some persons say that 'Morals' should be taught but not Religion ; they are blind to the fact that Morals have no stable foundation without belief in a Power which inevitably, soon or late, rewards merit and virtue and punishes vice and sin and crime, in some future life if not in this.

Children of men ! The Unseen Power whose eye
For ever doth accompany Mankind,
(Hath sent Man each Religion tenderly)
That he did ever find.
Which has not taught weak wills how much they
can ?
Which has not fall'n on the dry heart like rain ?
Which has not cried to sunk self-weary man—
Thou must be born again !

(Matthew Arnold)

God sends His Teachers unto every age,
To every clime and every race of men,
With revelations fitted to their growth
And shape of mind, nor gives the realm of truth
Into the selfish rule of one sole race.
Therefore each form of worship that hath swayed
The life of Man, and given it to grasp
The Master-key of knowledge, Reverence,
Enfolds some germs of goodness and of right ,
Else, never had the eager soul, which loathes
The slothful down of pampered ignorance,
Found it even a moment's fitful rest

(J Russell Lowell, Rhacus).

42 TOO MUCH LAW & TOO MUCH RELIGION [CH. I]

All this only means that revolt against religion, as commonly understood and practised, may be local and temporary, due to special causes, as *reaction against priesthood and abuse*, but that permanent eschewal of Religion is impossible for the vast bulk of humanity.

The poet complained that "the world is too much with us night and day." Thoughtful Asiatics have good reason to complain that so-called religion has been interfering with our lives, private and public, far too much. But we also see that law, and science often misapplied by law, are now trespassing excessively upon our daily life and into our very homes, from birth to death, and that almost greater horrors are being perpetrated in names of science, art, and law, than ever were in that of religion.

Especially is so-called 'law' much too much with us, in private as well as public life. There are far too many laws already, and more are being manufactured every day by legislators who feel they must justify their existence thus Every human being in

for all citizens.' In 1940, in Soviet Russia, there were 30,000 (? 300 or 30) independent religious communities of every kind, over 8000 churches, and about 60,000 priests and ministers." Two non-official and one official Good-Will Missions went from India to China in 1951-1952. They have reported that there is complete freedom ré religion, but few go to public places of worship, being too busy with economic reconstruction under the new communist regime.

INVOCATION OF THE ONE SUPREME SPIRIT OF UNITY

AUM-ĀMĪN-AMEN

Eko Dévah sarva-bhütéshu gūdbah
Sākshī chétā sarva-bhüt-ādhī-vāsah,
Tām Ātma-stham yé-(a)nu-pashyantī dhīrāh,
Téshām sukham shāshvatam, na-itareshām.

Sarva-vyāpī sarva-bhüt-āntar-Ātmā,
Ekam rūpam bahu dhā yah karoti,
Tām Ātma-stham-yé-(a)nu-pashyantī dhīrāh,
Téshām sukham shāshvatam, na-itareshām.

Nityo nityānām, Chétanash chétanānām,
Eko bahūnām yo vi-dadhātī kāmān,
Tām Ātma-stham yé-(a)nu-pashyantī dhīrāh,
Téshām shāntih shāshvatī, na-itareshām

Eko A-varno, bahu-dhā Shakṭi-yogād
Varnān, an-ēkān nihit-ārtho yo dadhātī,
Vi-chaitī ch-ānté vishvam ādan, sa Dévah,
Sa no buddhyā shubhayā sam-yunaktu. (U)¹

¹ Please see, *supra* ‘List of Abbreviations’ and note on ‘System of Pronunciation’, as regards use of diacritical marks and accented types

All this only means that excess of even a good thing is bad. Indeed, *Excess is the one Sin of sins*, and *Moderation, following of the Middle Course, the one Virtue of virtues*, in all concerns of life. The way that Buddha taught is expressly known as *Madhyama Pati-pādā*, (Skt. madhyama pari-pātī) the Middle Path. One of the schools of philosophy that arose later, among his followers, is known as Mādhyamika, the 'Middle Way School'. One of the treatises of his contemporary, Confucius, is entitled, *The Doctrine of the Mean*, (actual compilation of which is ascribed by tradition to his grandson, Kung Kei).¹ A Samskr̥t proverb says

- Āshrayēn madhyamām vṛttim, ati sarvatra varjayēt,

(Follow the middle course ; avoid extremes.)

Krishna expounds it thus

N-āty-ashnatas tu yog-ostī, na cha-ékāntam an-ashnataḥ,

Na ch-āti-svapna-shilasya, jāgrato n-āti cha,
Arjuna !,

Yukt-āhāra-vihārasya, yukta-chéshtasya sarvadā,
Yukta-svapn-āva-bodhasya, yogo bhavatī duhkha-hā. (G.)²

¹ Lin Yutang, in his book, *My Country and My People*, calls him Chung Yung

² *Charaka* and *Sushrūta*, best known and most studied works of Skt. Āyur-Vēda (Medicine) devote special

(What marvel ! that a Being Colourless
 Displays a hundred thousand hues, tints, shades !
 What wonder ! that a Being Void of Form
 Enrobes in forms beyond all numbering !—
 May we behold H̄im in all hues and forms !

Thus, in the name of H̄im who hath no name,
 Yet lifts to every name an answering head,
 The name of H̄im who is the Changeless One
 Amidst the changing Many, and within
 Whose Oneness all this Many is confined,
 May we begin our loving work of Peace.)

Aum ! Tat Savitur-varéniyam bhargo Dévasya dhi-mahi, dhiyo yo nah prachodajāt. (V) Agnē !, naya su-pathā rāyé asmān, vishvāni, Déva !, vayunāni vīdvān Yuyodhī-asmaj-juhurānam énah. Bhūyish-thām Té nama-ukṭīm vīdhéma. (*Isha Upanishat*)

(Father of all !, may Thy supernal Light
 Inspire, illuminate, and guide our minds !
 We open them to let Thy Glory in
 Supreme Director ! Lord of Warmth and Light,
 Of Life and Consciousness, that knowest all !
 Guide us by the *Right Path* to happiness,
 And give us strength and will to war against
 The sins that rage in us and lead astray !
 We bow in adoration unto Thee !)

Muhammad has said

Khair-ul-umūrē ausātōhā (H)

(Only those acts are good and safe to do,
The golden mean which studiously pursue).

Bible says

"Be not righteous over much; neither make thyself over wise. . . . Be not over much wicked; neither be thou foolish." (B., Eccles.)

"Give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with food sufficient for my wants; lest I be full and deny Thee, and say, who is Jahveh?; or be poor, and steal, and profane the name of my God." (B., Proverbs.)

A Latin proverb says: *Summum jus, summa injuria*, 'excessive justice is excessive injury'. Other proverbs like 'Extremes meet,' 'Pride goeth before a fall', 'Too much wit outwits itself,' illustrate the same fact. Another Latin maxim is: *In medio veritas*, 'Truth is in the middle'

Shintoism embodies the same principles:

"It has ever insisted on *ma-gokoro*, by which it means freedom from inordinate passions. . All appetites are natural hence divine gifts; and the *temperate* enjoyment of them is a divine power. If man oversteps the limits of *moderation*, he pollutes his body and mind. To be godlike is to be natural; to be natural is to follow Nature . . .

Paths, and lead me in Thy Truth. Thou art the God of my salvation Open Thou mine eyes that I may behold wondrous things out of Thy Law. Quicken Thou me according to Thy word. Remove from me the way of lying. (B., O.T)

Our Father which art in heaven !, hallowed be Thy name Thy Kingdom come Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And *lead us* not into temptation, but deliver us *from evil*, for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen. (B., N.T)

O far great Heaven ! We call Thee,
Our Father and our Mother ! (C , THR., 19)

(Ocean of Mercy ! Ever, in our hearts,
Dwell Thou, and so illuminate our minds
That we may love, serve, worship Thee, Our God !,
Ever Thy Presence may we feel near us !
Thou art our Father, Mother, Teacher, all !)

(Sri., Grantha, THR., 31).

DEAR FRIENDS, SISTERS, BROTHERS !

In accord with the time-old traditions of the East, let us begin our work of love thus, in the words of the venerable Scriptures of the several

48 SCRIPTURES AND PHILOSOPHER'S VIEWS [CH. I

by Will Durant in his *The Story of Philosophy*, p. 86 (pub. 1938). Durant adds, on pp. 87-88 : " . . . This doctrine of the mean . . . appears in almost every system of Greek philosophy. Plato (speaks of it as) harmonious action. . . . The Seven Wise Men had the motto, *meden agen*, 'nothing in excess', engraved on the temple of Apollo at Delphi."

A Greek philosopher has said: "Strive to acquire proper balance—courage without rashness, caution without timidity; mercy without weakness; justice without vindictiveness, silence without deceit; shrewdness without cunning, courtesy without fawning; firmness without obstinacy; deliberation without dilatoriness; patience without carelessness; friendship without favoritism, ambition without selfishness"

Mahā-bhārata, Shānti-parva, ch. 70, says: "Be religious, not bigoted; virtuous, not self-righteous; devout, not fanatical; gather wealth, not cruelly; enjoy, without elation, speak gently, not insincerely; be brave, without boasting, be generous, not wasteful; give, not indiscriminately; speak boldly, not harshly; make friends, not with the ignoble; fight, not with friends, seek information, not from the unreliable; serve your interest, without hurting others; ask advice, not from the unwise; praise virtues, not your own; trust, but not the evil;

Life and Light vivify and illuminate our hearts and minds! May It show to us the Right Path, and give to us the firm and Righteous Will to walk on it unwavering! Only after opening our hearts to it, may we commence all work with hope of full success!

Next, let us reverently salute the Rshis, Prophets, Buddhas, Messiahs, Nabīs, Rasūls, Messengers, Avatāras, Tirthan-karas, Arhats, Gurus, the Spiritual Hierarchs of all times. They have given Scriptures, age after age, to race after race, in order to keep alive the light of the consciousness of that Unity in the heart of Humanity. They brood over the Human Race and guide its progress, as benevolent parent-teachers watch over children in an educational home, leading the minds and bodies of their pupils onwards, from class to upper class, along the path of ever upward evolution.

Let us also offer tribute of deep gratitude to all Societies, Associations, Leagues, Parliaments of Religions, World-Fellowships of Faiths, which have been endeavouring to hold up before the world, the need and the possibility of reviving the sincere worship of that Spirit of Unity, (1) by educating more and more clearly, through sympathetic, deep, large-hearted and open-minded, comparative study of the Sacred Books of all religions, the Essential Unity running through all these religions, past and present,

50 ALL-PERVADING DUAD, LOVE-HATE [CH. I

Male and female created He them. (B.)

Ishq-bāzī mī kunad bā khwésh-tan ;
Shud bahānāh dar-miyānē mard o zan (S.)

(To play at Love the better with Hīm-Self
He put on separate masks of man and wife)

Sa Ēkākī n-āramata, Sa Ātmānam dvédhā apā-
tayat,
Patish cha Patni ch-ābhavat, āpayato vai tāv-
anyo-nyasya kāmān sarvān. (U.)

(Lonely He felt, and all unsatisfied;
So into Two He did divide Hīm-Self,
To have a Play-mate; Man and Wife He was;
All wishes of each other they fulfil.)

Chitta-nadi nāma ubhayato vāhīnī ; vahati kalyā-
pāya, vahati cha pāpāya (Yoga-Sūtra-Bhāshya,
1-12).

(The mind-stream in two rival currents flows,
Heading to virtue and to vice it goes).

Bahr-e-talkh o bahr-e-shīrīn ham-enān,
Darmiyān 'shān barzakh-é lā-yubghiyān, (S.)
Qāyaman bil qist (H.)

(Oceans of Sweet and Bitter surge abreast;
Between them rests the razor-line of Rest.
The Being of Godhead rests a-midst the Pairs,
Maintaining balance betwixt Joys and Cares.)

CHAPTER I

RELIGIOUS SCIENCE AND SCIENTIFIC RELIGION.

IT IS common knowledge that Asiatic thought is
Asiatic eminently coloured by religion, as
Thought and modern European thought is by
European science All the great living religions
Thought are of Asiatic origin, also almost
all the historical great dead religions The personal,
domestic, and social life of the Hindū is largely
governed by the rules of what he regards as his reli-
gion So is that of the Musalmān. So of the Jew
So of the Confucian So was, and to a considerable
extent still is, that of the Christian belonging to the
Roman Catholic form of Christianity Such also is
the case with the followers of the other forms and
reforms of the Vedic religion, known as the Zoro-
astrian, the Buddhist, the Jaina, the Sikh, though
perhaps the element of ritual is less prominent, and
that of ethics more, in the later of these, in accord-
ance with the very principle of reform¹ Laotism

¹ "A religion which holds possession of our lives, which directs us at each step which we take, becomes part of our own souls. Unless, in some shape or other,

Nir-māna-mohāh, jīta-sanga-doshāh,
 adhy-ātma-nityāh, vini-vrtta-kāmāh,
 Dvam-dvair-vimukṭāh sukha-duhkha-sañjñaih
 Gachchhanti amūdhāh padam Avyayam Tat. (G.)

(They only who love Me with steadfast mind
 Can cross this glamour of Duality ,
 And they who rise above this Dualness
 They only know Me as the One Sole Truth.
 Crossing beyond this ever-battling Pair
 Of Joy and Sorrow, mind now Proud now Low,
 Elation and Depression, they attain
 The state of Peace that knows not any change.)

Nir-dvam-ḍvah nitya-sattva-sthab
 nir-yoga-kshémah Ātma-vān ,
 Jñéyah sa nitya-sannyásī
 yah na ḍvéshti na kānkshati ;
 Nir-ḍvam-ḍvah hi, mahā-bāho !,
 sukham bandhāt pra-muchyaté
 Samah siddhau a-siddhau cha,
 ḍvam-ḍvā-titah vi-matsarah,
 Yad-ṛchchhā-lābha-san-tushtah,
 kr̥tv-āpi na ni-baḍhyaté. (G.)

(Who is content with what lot brings to him,
 Who is not envious, who has passed the Pairs,
 Who in success and failure stands the same,
 His acts, being only duties, bind him not.

naturally virtuous, teaches ritual mostly.¹ In all these, the feeling is prominent, that the human being is under the ever-present influence of Something, is always in relation with Something, which is other than what is perceptible to the outer senses; that the life of the physical body is subordinate to the life of a Mysterious Something, Soul, Spirit, which has a life beyond this life. Indeed, the tendency to what has been called other-worldliness has, in some communities, grown over-pronounced, even to the extent of becoming a disease²

¹ "There is a teaching which, if not confined to Shinto, is at least most emphasised in it, and that is the innate goodness of man. Shintoists consistently uphold the theanthropic doctrine of *Kan-nagara*, of man being essentially divine" Inazo Nitobe, *Japan*, (pub 1931, The Modern World Series), p 321

² Incidentally, it may be noted that this excessive other-world-li-ness, (in the sense of neglect of this world), with which India is debited, (and not wholly wrongly either, by foreign as well as indigenous writers), has been prominent, mostly only during those periods in which political and economic oppression and exploitation have been rampant. Subjected to cruel misery and heart-break in this world, people sought hope of relief from the next, as they have done in every country of east and west, China, Eur-Asia, Europe, in convents and monasteries. Otherwise, India has always been sufficiently 'this world-ly' to have won the reputation of the land *par excellence* of silver and gold and jewels, wealth and plenty and luxury of all kinds, flowing with milk and honey, filled with corn and cotton and cattle, fruits and silk and wool, tanks and temples and palaces of stone

Twins,' and the threefold g u n a-s, functions of mind, cognition, desire, action, in which primal Duality is inherent, and which, in turn, are inherent in Duality.

Yasmin vi-ruddha-gatayo hi-anisham patantī¹
 Vidyā-(ā)dayo vi-vidha-shaktayah ānu-pūrvyā,
 . . . Tasmāi sam-un-naddha-vi-ruddha-shaktayē
 Namah Parasmai Purushāya Vēdhasé. (Bh.)

(In whom opposéd Forces ever swirl
 Against each other, whirling the whole world
 Unceasingly, Hím we adore in heart.)

Prakṛtih ubhaya-koti-sparshīnī ,
 Purushah madhyasthah. (Bhāva-Prakāsha).

(Nature doth ever swing between Extremes,
 Holding the Balance, stands midway, Her God.)

An English poet has caught the idea well :

Joy and woe are woven fine,
 A clothing for the soul divine ;
 Under every grief and pine
 Runs a joy with silken twine,
 It is right it should be so ;
 Man was made for joy and woe ;
 And when this we rightly know,
 Safely through the world we go.

(WILLIAM BLAKE)¹

¹ "The two inscriptions on the Delphic Temple, (in Greece) viz — 'Nothing too much' and 'Know thyself' — were complementary. If you have too much of

memory, expectation, space, time'; and so on. That western thought, going to the other extreme, from excess of other-worldliness to excess of this-worldliness, brought about the greater disease of mind which resulted in the most murderous of historical wars, *viz.*, World-War I (1914-1918) and II (1939-1945), and continues to threaten a still worse

To find out, then, whether there is or is not any substantial unity in Asiatic thought, we have mostly to concern ourselves with religious thought; as, if we had to investigate whether there is or is not unity in European thought, we would chiefly compare the views of those who have devoted their lives to the various branches of science, mathematical, physico-chemical, astronomical, biological, sociological

To the cursory view, of the person of one kind of temperament, it might seem that the unity of Western scientific thought is patent¹; that the whole of what is known as science is a consistent body of theory and practice, that the unity of Eastern religious thought is an equally obvious myth, and that religions are born only to try to annihilate one another, and to induce their respective followers to plague and murder each other.

¹ See, f.i., works like *Outline of Science*, and *Modern Book of Knowledge*, quite a number of which have been published within the last two or three decades.

56 DUAL NAME-PAIRS OF THE SUPREME [CH. I]

(These two Primordial Principles in One,
 Of Light and Darkness, Good and Ill, that seem
 Apart from one another, yet are bound
 Inseparably together, each to each—
 In Thought, in Word, in Action, everywhere
 Are they in operation ; and the wise
 Walk on the side of Light, while the unwise
 Follow the other until they grow wise
 These ancient Two, in mutual wrestle-play
 Give birth to Twin-Desires, high and low,
 That shape as Hate-Mentality in some,
 In others as the Better Mind of Love.
 O Mighty Lord of Wisdom, Mazadā !,
 Supreme, Infinite, Universal Mind !,
 Ahūrā !, thou that givest Life to all !,
 Grant me the power to control this mind,
 This Lower Mind of mine, this egoism,
 And put an end to all Duality,

(? asu-bhṛtsu, jivéshu, upaitām, taḍā tau) ḍrug-vatām.
 (dṛug-vatām, droha-vatām) achistam (anishtam), ashā-
 vali (ashā-vatām, ? shubhāshā-vatām, usha-vatām, jyo-
 tish-matām) vahistam (vaishtham, varishthām) manah
 āsat (āstām).

Hé Kshayan Ahura Mazda !, (? A-kshaya, asūn
 prānān rāti dadāḥi iḍi Asurah, Mahat, Buḍḍhi-tatṭvam,
 Br̥hat, tam Mahāntam daḍhāḥi, lī Maha-dhāḥ) samam
 tāt chit (syāt) Vahistam, yaṭ svasya ḍambhasya (aham-
 kārasya) Ishvarah chit (syam), yaṭ-a mē dvarṭasya aṭih
 (iṭih, anṭah, syāt), yaṭ énasā ḍrug-vantah (api) asunā
 (prāṇēna, hr̥dayēna) evam éva iṣhyanti (ichchhanti).

statecraft, ruthless diplomacy, caused far more slaughter than Religion, becoming scienceless and reasonless, and degenerating into priestcraft, has done.¹ But all such things are the fruit, neither of true science, nor of true religion, but of the evil in human nature. That evil falsifies and *misuses* them both, for its own selfish purposes.

Here as elsewhere, the wish is father to the thought. Those, who, for temperamental reasons, wish to see Unity, will see Unity. Those, who wish to see Discord, will see Discord only.

The Unity Underlying Both. Those, who wish impartially to examine both sides of the question, will see both justly. They will discern the Truth, which always stands in the Mean between opposite Extremes; *viz.*, the Truth of essential Unity in superficial Diversity, in religious as well as in scientific thought. Such Unity is established by the mediation of Philosophy; and the use of Philosophy, as such mediator, has begun to be recognized, more and more, latterly, by the more thoughtful and widely cultured scientists themselves, as well as by the more thoughtful religionists

¹ G B Shaw's *Prefaces* (Collected Works, 3 vols., 1938) are full of powerful attacks against the tyranny of modern science, as being much more pervasive and irresistible than the tyranny of religion ever was. See, e.g., *Prefaces to The Doctor's Dilemma* and *The Simplton of the Unexpected Isles*

Creator and Satisfier of all Desires ;¹ Al-Muzil and Al-Hādī, Māyī and Tāraka, Mis-Leader, Mis-Director, Tempter, Degrader, Tester, and also Guide, Leader, Teacher, Rector, True-Di-Rector, Cor-Recter ; Al-Qahhār and Ar-Razzāq, Rudra and Shiva, Angry Overwhelmer and Auspicious Nourisher ; Al-Ghazzāb and Al-Ghaffār, Yama and Kshamā-vān, Punisher and Forgiver ; Al-Jabbar and Al-Karīm, Ghora and Dayālu, Severe or Dire and Compassionate , Al-Jalīl and Al-Jamil, Shāstā, Prabhu, Ishvara, and Madhu, Maḍhura, Sundara, Kānta, the Lord, Ordainer, Sovereign, Awesome, Terrible, and the Beautiful, the Beloved, the Friend of All.

The vibhūtis, glories, gunas, attributes, *sifāt*, of the Supreme are all in pairs of opposites, classifiable under the two main categories of *aishvarya* and *mādhurya*, *jalālī* and *jamālī*, lordliness and sweet-ness, awesomeness and beauty, majesty and mercy, sovereignty and parentality, *Saura-téjah* and *Sau mya-dipṭi*, *Chāndramasa-jyōtiḥ*, Sun-like blaze and splendour and Moon-like softness and

¹ The late Sir Ahmad Hussain, Amin Jung, M.A., LL.D., K.C.S.I., (of Hyderabad Dn) suggested the following renderings Al-Muhīyy, the Supreme Maker (Brahmā), Al-Muhaimīn, the Supreme Mender (Viṣṇu), Al Mumīt, the Supreme Ender (Rudra), Al-Samad, the One Eternal Becoming (Sanātana or Shāshvata).

the Temple in Buddha-Gayā, while pilgrims from all countries of Asia, and from many parts of Africa, gather at Macca annually, in obedience to the command of the Prophet Muhammad¹. Truth-seeking lovers of humanity will always work with all their might, to minimise the spirit of disunion and discord. This spirit of discord, in Europe, has caused the two World Wars, and continues to intensify political, national, and racial jealousies and hatreds there, in worse and worse form, even after the awful bloodshed and agony of those Wars. In Asia, especially in India, it is evidenced by the too well-known caste and creed dissensions, which have kept it under all sorts of subjection, domination, and exploitation; whence arises, surely, great material as well as spiritual harm to the exploited, now, and to the exploiter, in the end.² Best means of

¹ Jerusalem, Rome, Lourdes, Kiev, Canterbury, and other towns are similar Centres of Pilgrimage for European Christians also, still.

² In India, fierce 'political' dissensions have also grown up between large 'parties', and riots and strikes, engineered by 'leaders' of many sorts, have multiplied, within last four decades. The armed war of Japan and China (1931-1945), though their religion is, largely, the same, is matter of current history. Civil War also went on between the Communists and the established Government, in China, for several years, until latter was overthrown and former came into power with Mao-tse as chairman of the Chinese Republic, formally established on 1st Oct 1949

Confucius says .

" Yang and Yin, male and female, strong and weak, rigid and tender, heaven and earth, sun and moon, thunder and lightning, wind and rain, cold and warmth, good and evil, high and low, righteousness and humaneness, . . . the interplay of Opposite

Dūrae-ḍarshā, (Dūra-ḍrashtā), Far-seeing, Spashṭā, Watcher, Pāṭā, Saviour, Znātā, (Jñātā), All-knowing; Isé-Kshaṭroyotēma, Omnipotent Ruler, Vispo-van, Conqueror of All Vispa-ṭash, Architect of the Universe, Ahurā, Lord of Life, (V Asu rah), Mazadā, Lord of the Great Creation, Lord of Ideation and Wisdom (V. Mahat-dhā), and so on These Zoroastrian names, corresponding Skt words and Eng explanations, have been kindly supplied by Dr. I J S. Taraporevala, Principal of the M F. Cama Athorvan Institute, Andhēri (near Bombay), now retired and living in Bombay

Other epithets for the Mystery, that are to be found in the old books are , Lā-Sharik-lah, A-Dvītyah, Without-Another, Lā-nidhi-lah, A-Samah, the Without-Equal, Lā-Misli-lah, A-Sadrshah, the Incomparable; Lā-Ziddi-lah, A-Prati-ḍvam-ḍvah, A Sapaṇnah, An-Anyah, A-Piṭi-pakshah, Without-Opponent, Al-Ghani, Āṭma-Trptah, A-Sahayah, Self-sufficing, Self-complete, Unsupported, Non-dependent; Al-Hayy, Chin-mayah, All-Consciousness; Al-Qayyūm, Niṭyah, Shāshvaṭah, Ever-lasting, Al-Kul, Sarvah, All, Chaṭanyam, Pure Awareness, Prāṇah, Life in and of All, Shuddhah, Khālis, Pure, Al-Abd, Ēkah, the One

All these names, that have been given to the Supreme Spirit, the Mystery which runs the Universe, by the various scriptures, are mentioned here to draw attention to the identity of thought of all religions, as to the attributes of that Mystery, the Eternal, Infinite, Universal Principle of all Life and Consciousness, give it what

The establishing of such union, between religion and religion, and between science and religion, in place of the conflict which has been raging between them so far, will make the beginning of a new and beneficent era, an era guided and governed by Scientific Religion and Religious Science.

Some signs are hopeful Slowly, with many setbacks, artificial barriers are breaking down between science and science, between science and religion, between religion and religion. It is beginning to be recognized and said more and more, that sciences are not many, but that Science is one. It is to be hoped that before very long, with the help of that same completely unified science, it will soon come to be recognized that religions, too, are not many, but that Religion is one, and, finally, that Science and Religion are but different aspects of, or even only different names for, the same great body of Truth and its application which may be called the Science or Code of Life If, formerly, every act was done in the name and under the guidance of religion, and, latterly, has tended to be done in the name of science, there is reason to hope that, in future, it may be done in the name of Spiritual or Religious Science.

History shows that new religions and their characteristic civilizations have taken birth, grown, and

Laotze says :

" Tao is divided into a *principal Pair of Opposites*, Yang and Yin. Yang is warmth, light, masculinity; also heaven. Yin is cold, darkness, femininity; also earth. From the Yang force arises *Schen*, the celestial portion of the human soul; from the Yin force arises *Kwei* or *Poh*, the earthly part. As a micro-cosm, man is in some degree a *reconciler* of the Pairs of Opposites. Heaven, Earth, Man" (God-Nature-Man, Ishvara-Jada-Jiva) " form the three chief elements of the world, the *Sa-isui*"¹ (*Samsara*, World-Process).

The Greek philosopher Empedocles (circa 440 B.C.), "extolled by antiquity as also orator, statesman, physicist, physician and poet, even as prophet and worker of miracles", expressly enounces Love

¹ C. G. Jung, *Psychological Types*, 267, quotes this from Lao-tse's *Tao-teh-king*. He also quotes Goethe's *Faust*, to illustrate the familiar idea of man's dual nature, his two selves, higher and lower, altruist and egotist.

Two souls, alas !, within my bosom dwell ;
 The one doth hanker after love's delights,
 And clings with clutching organs to the world ,
 The other, mightily, from earthly dust
 Would mount on high to the ancestral fields

Many other Eastern and Western poets have expressed the idea more powerfully. *Upanishads* speak of *dvā suparna*... 'two birds dwelling in this tree of life,' the human body.

Thus, some scientists have been working at 'psychical research' since 1882, when the Society for

Unfortunately, owing to inherent human weaknesses, they repeatedly stray away from principles to personalities, from humanitarianism to sectarianism, and to all the dangers and mischiefs of 'priestcraft' which that implies. They do not keep the main objects steadily in view, as beacon-light to guide all their efforts, do not work single mindedly and whole heartedly for the unification of the world's thought and practice in a Universal Scientific Religion, and a sincere *League of all Religions as well as of all Nations*. Varying the proverb, "Man proposes and God disposes", we may say, 'God proposes, and Satan opposes, and, but too often, successfully disposes'

But there is no cause for excessive regret, much less despair. Instead, there is cause for greater effort in behalf of the Impersonal, and therefore All-personal, Truth. For the Principle of Good always re-composes and re-disposes Schisms, due to 'personalities', due to over-emphasis, with much animus, on the personal element, on *meum* and *tuum*, and consequent violent disputes between followers, as well as violent opposition by persons outside the special fold, have been the experience, in their own life-times, of Krshna, Moses, Zoroaster, Confucius, Buddha, Christ, Muhammad, Nānak—all, as also of 'leaders' in all other fields of human life. This is but another proof to the peaceful and discerning eye, of 'the Unity of all Religions', instead of the opposite, in respect of such unhappy experience too! We also see plainly, that such schisms do not at once destroy all the good work of the main religion. When, bye and bye, they do succeed in undermining it wholly, then the Principle of Good brings about a re proclamation and re-viv-al of the Fundamental Truth in new ways. Believers in and servants of Unity must therefore always keep their hearts high.

Life is a perpetual choice between endless pairs of 'rival ills'. Right choice, which will, in any given time, place, and circumstance, bring most happiness and least pain, which will reconcile antagonisms, is the choice inspired by the Spirit which stands permanently in the Middle between the two extremes of Nature, which impartially 'tastes and tests all things, and holds fast that which is good,' most good, viz., It-Self, which always avoids excess, excessive attachments, by loves or by hates, to the objects of the senses, things other than Universal Self. Such seems to be the teaching of all religions and all sciences.¹

Religion is as necessary as Science. As said before, so long as human beings suffer from, and fear, pain and death, and look before and after, and think about such things, so long will human heart and head demand, and will not be denied, the solace that only religion can give. When anguish wrings the heart, then we overwhelmingly realize that it

¹ If the reader cares to pursue the question—*Why and How* Duality, Trinity, etc., arise within the One; Multiplicity in Unity, Change within the Changeless, he may look into the present writer's *The Science of Peace*, or, for briefer statement, into the second and third chapters of *The Science of the Self*. Endeavour is made there to expound ancient teachings, on the subject, in terms of modern western philosophy and psychology, as far as possible.

than a great *Machine*" And again, "The apparent objectivity of things is due to their subsisting in the Mind . . . We reach . . . the concept of the universe as a world of pure Thought. . . . Mind no longer appears as an accidental intruder in the realm of Matter. We are beginning to suspect that we ought rather to hail it as the creator and governor of the realm of Matter Not, of course, our individual minds, but the Mind in which the atoms, out of which our individual minds have grown, exist as Thought." The same scientist, in *The New Background of Science* (1933), dealing with "the new knowledge", and surveying "the whole ground, from relativity, continuum, least interval, curved space, to quanta, wave-mechanics, waves of probability, indeterminacy and events—all concepts which we can neither picture, imagine, nor describe", says: "The law and order which we find in the universe are most easily described and . . . explained in the language of idealism . . . At the farthest point Science has so far reached, much, and possibly all, that was not mental has disappeared, and nothing new has come in that is not mental. The final direction of change will probably be away from the materialism and strict determinism which characterised . . . nineteenth century physics" ? Again, in

¹ See Sullivan's *Limitations of Science* (pub 1938; Penguins), especially ch vi

(He who is wholly dull, without a mind ;
 He who has gone beyond the reach of mind,
 And found that which gives being to the mind,
 And is established in the Mid 'twixt Pairs,
 These two are well , those restless, 'tween, are ill.)

As a western writer has observed, " mankind has one innate, irrepressible, craving, that *must* be satisfied . . . yearning after proof of immortality."

The end of Religion is to transcend Religion. When the end has been found, means are dropped :

Nis-trai-gunyé pathi vicharato
 ko vidhī ko nishédhah. (SHANKAR-ĀCHĀRYA).

(The soul which finds the path that goes beyond
 The 'three' that bind, knowledge-desire-and-act,
 It hath no further need for 'Do-s' and 'Don't-s'.)

Rab ras Rab shud, tamām Rab rā Rab nīst ;
 Har jā Khurshéd ast, ān-jā shab nīst
 Sūfī shud nīst, nīst rā mazhab nīst ;
 Bā Yār rasidah dīgar matlab nīst. (S)

(Who findeth God becometh wholly God ;
 And unto God there is no other God.
 Where the Sun shines, can there be any night ?
 The ' knower ' is *non-est* , his lower self,
 Of low desires, has been effacéd now ;
 To such ' non-est ' , Religion is ' non-est .'

theory amounts to." Elsewhere he says, "Modern physics has eliminated the notion of substance . . . Mind is the first and most direct thing in our experience . . . I regard Consciousness as fundamental I regard Matter as derivative from Consciousness." And again, "The stuff of the world is mind-stuff . . . Consciousness is not sharply defined, but fades into sub-consciousness, and beyond that we must postulate something indefinite, but yet continuous with our mental nature. This I take to be the world-stuff;" *The Nature of the Physical World*, pp. 276-280.

The venerable Herbert Spencer said, in the closing (§ 190-191) of the last revised edition of his *First Principles* (pub. 1900, when he was eighty years of age), that his 'Unknowable' in no way conflicts with, but rather supports, religion. The Teacher-founders of the great religions have all taught, and many philosophers, ancient and modern, Western and Eastern, have perceived that this Unknown and Unknowable, is our very Self, the all-pervading, Universal, Supreme Principle of Consciousness or Life.

The equally venerable Alfred Russel Wallace, co-discoverer with H. Spencer and Charles Darwin, of the Law of Evolution, has, in his book, *Social Environment and Moral Progress*, written when he was nearly ninety years of age, expressly declared

that Nature in *all* its departments, physical as well as superphysical or psychical; whereas 'in the name of science and law' means, at present, 'in the name of the laws of only the physical department of Nature as recognised and utilised in man-made laws'. Science, in the limited sense of physical science, is imperfect religion, is one part of religion. Religion, in the full sense, is larger science, is the Whole of Science. We owe debts and duties not only to our own and our fellow-creatures' physical bodies, but also to the 'souls', the 'superphysical bodies'. The rules of Religion, i.e., of the Larger Science, enable us, at least ought to enable us, to discharge all these wider debts and duties. They should also secure to us, all sinless joys which are rightly due to us.

Yato Abhy-udaya-Nis-shréyasa-siddhih, sah Dharma.
 (Vaisheshika Sutra).

(Religion, Dharma, is that which brings Joy,
 In the Life Here, and the Hereafter, too.)

Religion has been described as 'the Command or Revelation of God'. This only means, in other words, 'the Laws of God's Nature,' as revealed to us by the labours, intellectual, intuitive,

professor of physiology, Dalhousie University, Nova Scotia : Hans Driesch, Professor of Philosophy, Leipzig ; and Sir J. A. Thomson, *emeritus* Professor of Natural History, Aberdeen.

Following extracts, of other famous living scientists' opinions, are taken from J. T. Sunderland's article. "Is Modern Science Outgrowing God ?" in *The Modern Review* (of Calcutta), for July, 1936.

Albert Einstein, Mathematician, world-famous originator of the Theory of Relativity. "I believe in God . . . who reveals Himself in the orderly harmony of the universe. I believe that Intelligence is manifested throughout all Nature. The basis of scientific work is the conviction that the world is an ordered and comprehensible entity and *not* a thing of Chance." Again (in U S A, in 1930) he said : "The religious geniuses of all times have been distinguished by this cosmic religious sense . . . It seems to me that the most important function of Art and Science is to arouse and keep alive this feeling in those who are receptive," quoted by Dean Inge, in an art. on 'The Philosophy of Mysticism', in *Philosophy* for October, 1938

J. B. S Haldane, physicist, Oxford and Birmingham Universities. "The Material world, which has been taken for a world of blind Mechanism, is in reality a Spiritual world seen very partially and imperfectly. The *one real* world is the Spiritual world. . . The

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foblish the minds, and blind the eyes, of all? If religion were dispensable, the question might be answered readily in the negative. We have no right. But it is not dispensable, as indicated before. We have therefore to answer the question by saying that we have as much right, nay, as much imperative duty, to teach religion, as we have to teach arithmetic, geography, history, science. Nay, more right and duty; for these other things, however desirable, however useful, are not so indispensable for comfort of soul. We teach these other things to our children for their good, out of our love for them. And we try to teach what we have ascertained, by our best lights, to be good and true and useful for them. If we make mistakes, it is because we are human and liable to err. Because food now and then disagrees, we cannot stop all eating. We must make only greater efforts to ensure its healthiness of quality and quantity. So in Religion we must make the greatest efforts to ascertain what is most indubitable, most in accord with the best science, and, more than all else, is most approved and agreed in by all concerned, and most likely to promote good-will and active sympathy between all human beings. This is the very and only way to allay those dazing and amazing cries and bigotries and hostilities.

Let us examine the matter in another fashion. It is indisputable that the vast majority of human

culminating in man with his Spiritual nature and all his God-like powers "

The sentences with which Sir J. A. Thomson closes the book above referred to, viz. *The Great Design*, may be quoted here: "Throughout the World of Animal Life there are expressions of something akin to the Mind in ourselves. There is, from the Amœba upwards, a stream of inner, of subjective, life; it may be only a slender rill, but sometimes it is a strong current. It includes feeling, imagining, purposing, as well as occasionally thinking. It includes the Unconscious. Whether in the plant it dreams, or is soundly asleep, or has never awokened, who can tell us? . . . The omnipresence of mind in animals gives us a fellow-feeling with them. With Emerson we see 'the worm, stirring to be a man, mount through all the spires of form.' We see the growing emancipation of mind, and this gives Evolution its purpose . . In a continuous process, there can be nothing in the end which was not also present in kind in the beginning, we are led from our own mind, and the story of its enfranchisement, back and back to the Supreme Mind 'without Whom there was nothing made that was made.' Facing, every day, things in the World of Life, around which our scientific fingers will not meet, what can we do but repeat what is carved on the lintel of the Biology Buildings of one of the youngest

circumstances, useful) forms, of all the great religions extant, and feed the younger generation with those vital grains, instructing them that the husks are useful only for preserving and storing the grains in, and not for eating and assimilating.

Some others hold that the work that Religion did, or was supposed to do, in the past, and did badly, if at all, has been taken up and is now being done by Philosophy, Science, Law, and also Art, in three or four separate departments of life; and, therefore, no Religion, old, reformed, or new, is needed any longer. The reply to this is that man is not a trinity only, in three separate parts, but is essentially a Unity; something is needed to co-ordinate, to unify, to organise, to articulate with each other, Philosophy, Science, Law. That is Religion '*re*' and '*lege:re*', to bind together anew, again, the hearts of all, to each other, and back again to God, from Whom the temptations of earth cause those hearts to stray away. Védānta-Tasawwuf-Gnosis is all three; it is a Religion which includes the essentials of Philosophy, Science, Art, or, if we prefer it so, it is a Philosophy which synthesises Religion, Science, Art. We should call to mind again, here, that the latest speculation of the most renowned scientists tends to reduce all matter to atoms and super-atoms, paramāṇus, electrons, protons, neutrons, plutons, positrons, etc.; these to electrical

University Extension Lectures . . . comprise a course of ten lectures on 'The Literature of the Occult'. They start with the main principles involved in occult study, and roam over the subject from the Egyptian "Book of the Dead", and medieval Chinese occult lore, to Yoga and modern spiritualism "

Thus is modern Science, fathered in its infancy, and persecuted in its youth, by Religion, in Europe, now endeavouring to repay the kindness, after having retributed the injury, by renovating Religion in what, let us hope, will be a finer, scientific, non-superstitious form.

A short and effective way of settling the whole dispute over 'Spirit' (or 'Mind') and 'Matter', seems to be this You say, 'Matter-Chance' creates 'Spirit-Mind-Purpose'; not the latter, the former. Very good. Let it be that way But what does that mean? Does it not mean only this—that the attributes, properties, faculties, powers, which have been so long associated, by mankind, with (the words) Spirit—Mind—Intelligence—Life—Consciousness—Will—Purpose—Design (—all undeniable facts, remember—), *should now be attached to (the words)* Matter — Unconsciousness — Inanimacy — Deadness — Chance — Blind Force — Inertia, etc ; that instead of the (*word*) Subject ideating, imagining, cognising, desiring, conating, moving the (*word*)

should be allowed to grow up, in liberty, freely, according to its own inner promptings, inclinations, likes and dislikes—the truth in this, and a *very* important truth it is, is that, *each* individual of the new generation, should be not only allowed, but carefully educated and trained, for the *vocation* which is most in accord with his particular temperament, his likes and dislikes, his tastes and interests.¹ But over and above this *special* education, there should always be, for *all* individuals of the new generation, *general essential* cultural education in the four R's. Of course, after the new generation has attained its majority, and stands on its mental as well as physical feet, it will be at liberty to change, modify, discard, forget, replace with something else, any or every part, essential or non-essential, general or special, which it has been taught during its minority. As a fact, we see hundreds of persons changing their religions everyday, as they change their 'minds' and 'parties' and 'schools of thought', in politics, history, science, philosophy, art, etc. Indeed, changes have become so numerous and so frequent that we have a maddening welter of 'isms' today. The reason is that, in all these departments of thought and life, clear and definite, deliberate, knowledge of *essentials*, of psychological and

¹ Fuller exposition of this subject is attempted in *The Science of Social Organisation*, by the present writer.

Manu, then may be realized the Parliament of Man and the Federation of the World, the Organization of the whole Human Race in one vast Joint Family and Brotherhood, of which the League of Nations (now converted into the U. N. O. or United Nations Organisation, in 1946) has been the first small step and very feeble, because not quite sincere, not endowed with a soul in the shape of a League of all Religions integrated with it.

Educational institutions ought to take a leading part in the ushering in of this new proclamation of Scientific Religion and of the consequent new era of human history.

Duty of Educationists
Many, if not all, of even the statesmen and the generals who were busiest in promoting and conducting the World Wars have been saying that war is not a glorious business at all, but, besides being horrible, is also something very useless, senseless, mean, sordid, shabby, and shameful, altogether due to the most evil motives. A Field-Marshal of England, one of the prominent figures in the First World War, said in a public speech¹:

"War as a means of settling international disputes is now more universally condemned as a failure than ever before, and every day it becomes more evident

¹ Sir William Robertson, at Leeds, on 10th Dec., 1930.

Use many varying forms to put it in,
But yet the Truth enclosed in all is one.)

Jāma-é sad-rang z-ān khumm-é safā
Sāda-o yak-rang gashtah chūn ziyā. (S)
(Jesus put many cloths of many hues
Into one jar, and out of it they came
With all their hues washed off, all clean and
white,

As seven-colored rays merge in white light.)

Kṛṣṇa says, and not once but twice :
Mama varṭma anu-vartantē
manushyāḥ, Pārṭhaḥ, sarvashah. (G.)
(To but One Goal are marching everywhere,
All human beings, though they may seem to walk
On paths divergent ; and that Goal is I,
The Universal Self, Self-Consciousness.)

At turqu il-Allāhī kan nufūsī banī Ādama. (H.)
(As many souls, so many ways to God.)

Trayī, Sāṅkhyam, Yogah,
Pashupaṭi-maṭam, Vaishnavam, iti,
Prabhūnnē prasthānē, param
īdām, adah pāṭhyam iti cha,
Ruchinām vai-chitryād,
ṭju-kutila-nānā-patha-jushām
Nṛṇām Ēko gamyas-Tvam asi,
payasām arnava iva. (*Shiva-Mahima Śtuṭi*,)

These are the words of a modern war-worn veteran. *Jealousy* and *Selfishness* are the important words in his speech Krshna, who had probably more personal experience of war than even a modern Field-Marshal, said long ago that . " Lust, Hate, and Greed form the triple gateway into hell ." (*Gītā*).

to Marshal Zhukov's address, they both said that they would have been much happier if the war had not occurred, and they had not been recipients of war-honors General Douglas MacArthur of the US Army and Supreme Commander of all Allied Operations in the Pacific, after the fall of Japan in August, 1945, addressing the Allied Council for Japan, in Tokyo, on 5 4-1946, said " The Nations' Organisation can survive to achieve its purpose and aims, only if its members *abolish war as a sovereign right* Such renunciation must be simultaneous and universal It must be all or none It must be effected by action, not words alone With development of modern science another war might blast mankind to perdition, but still we hesitate, and in spite of the yawning abyss at our feet, cannot unshackle ourselves from the past " This shows how ' war-hardened ' soldiers are no longer ' hardened ' but ' softened ' They no longer gloat in war-medals and and titles, but are thoroughly sick of it all, especially of the diplomats who persist in keeping the shackles on Miss Muriel Lester, philanthropist worker, of London, visiting India in January, 1939, spoke to press interviewers, in Calcutta, to the effect that " the present calamitous state of the world, when all the Powers are running a mad race in armament, preparing feverishly for a far worse World-War, is due to its ignoring the fact of God , that fact of God is the foundation which kept the world together When it was knocked away, the peoples floundered They recognised nothing , no power greater than themselves , there was

Buddha said, on one occasion :

(Just as, O monks !, the rivers Yamunā
And Ganga, Achiravatī, Sharabhū,
And Mahī, when they fall into the Sea,
Lose distinct names and forms, and are, thence-
forward,

Known as One Ocean only ; even so,
All men of all four classes, when they come
Into the Doctrine and the Discipline
Of the Tathā-gata ' who knows the Truth,'
And pass from many homes to Homelessness,
They lose distinctive names, clans, nāma-gotra,
And are, thenceforward, known as Bhikshu only.)¹

Udāna, V. 5.

This is "the one far-off," yet also always very near, "divine event to which the whole creation moves" perpetually.

Zoroaster teaches :

" And we worship the former religions of the world devoted to righteousness " (*Z., Yasna, XVI 3; SBE, xxi, 225-6*)

At toīāng̍hen Saoshyanto ḫasyūnam. (*Gāthā, 48, 12*)

¹ One of the Sūfi names of Allāh is Lā-Makān, the Homeless, i.e., not limited, by any house or walls. Bhikshu, ' beggar ', ' ascetic ', stands for the Bhikshu-Sangha, ' community of ascetics ', Buddha's followers.

this fact has come home to them, it is being suggested, very rightly, very wisely, by influential persons in that same West, that the tone and the nature of the teaching given in schools and colleges should be changed, that war-glorification and national boasting, self-conceit, contempt and decrival of other nations, and expression of triumph over them should all be eliminated from that teaching, that, instead, there should be diligently inculcated the more truly refined and civilized spirit of 'humanism,' which began to manifest itself in the higher thought and feeling of the best and wisest persons of all nations, as a reaction against the horror of the senseless butchery of the first World War. Moral disarmament must precede physical disarmament. War can be abolished or reduced only in direct ratio to the abolition or reduction of War-Mentality. This is possible only by systematic cultivation of Peace-Mentality and 'Organising for Peace.'¹ That can be done only through diligent Right Education, of youth as well

¹ As regards 'Organising for Peace,' see the present writer's pamphlet, *Psychological Principles of Social Re-Construction, The Science of Social Organisation, and Ancient vs Modern Scientific Socialism*, (Theos Pubg House, Adyar, Madras) For a fuller exposition of the inseparable connection between Religion and Social Organisation, see the present writer's *World War and Its Only Cure—World Order and World Religion*, which may be regarded as a supplement to this work

" Every Scripture inspired of God is also profitable, for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for instruction, which is in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, furnished completely unto every good work." (B, 2 Timothy)

Great Teachers confirm, at most supplement, not supplant, one another.

Kṛṣṇa says that the teaching he is giving to Arjuna was given by Vivasvān to Manu, by Manu to Ikṣhvāku, and then by many Rshis, age after age. All is always present in the Memory of God, the Omni-scient, Omni-potent, Omni-present Universal Self, the One Principle of all Life and Consciousness.

Évam param-parā-prāptam imam rājarshayo viduh :
Sa év-āyam Mayā, té-(a)ḍya, yogah proktah,
parantapa !

(The royal saints, the king-philosophers,
Of ancient days, from one unto another
Did pass this Wisdom on, from age to age ;
That same eternal Yoga, Ancient Wisdom,
Have I declared to thee, this day, to strengthen
Thy mind and heart for Life's perpetual Strife)

Muhammad (the 'praise-worthy', Paigham-bar,
'message-bearer', Rasūl, 'sent' by the Spirit) says :

Innahū la-fī Zubūr il-awwalū ;
Le kullé qaumīn hād ;

lives, the *Beauty* and the *Goodness* of the concomitant Love and Sympathetic Self-sacrifice of human beings for one another.

Genuine Educators, who realize that it is their high spiritual duty to be Missionaries of the Supreme Spirit on this earth, who spend themselves in constant endeavour to uplift their fellowmen to the plane of Righteousness, and help to usher in anew, and maintain, the era of Peace on earth and Good-will among men; such cannot do better than give to the teaching of the Essentials of Universal Religion, by example as well as by precept, a foremost place in their courses of instruction to the younger generation, and inculcate, in their hearts, the habit of seeking and practising 'In Essentials, in Principles, in great things—Unity; in non-essentials, details, small and superficial things—Liberty, in all things—charity'.¹

¹ Viscount H. Samuel, President of the British Institute of Philosophy, in his lectures, in the Senate House, Calcutta, on 9-1-1938, and in the University Buildings, Allahabad, on 15-1-1938, said, "Bernard Shaw has declared that Civilisation needs Religion, as a matter of life and death . We all recognise that the mind of man, in our times, is confused . The present generation is beset by anxieties and perils . Our escape, our rescue, from these, depends upon our finding a new *Synthesis* between *Philosophy* and *Science* and *Religion* . *Philosophy*, coming out of its phase of classicism, *Science* coming out of its phase of materialism, *Religion* freeing itself from its servitude to dogmas that are outworn, may

An Arabic Qurān is thus revealed,
 That Macca and the cities round may learn
 With ease the Truth put in the words they know.
 For had we made them in a foreign tongue
 They surely would have made objection thus—
 “Why have not these revealings been made clear?”)

The obvious significance of this remarkable text is that the essentials are common to all religions · that Truth is universal and not the monopoly of any race or teacher , that non-essentials vary with time, place, and circumstance ; that the same fundamental truths have been revealed by God in different scriptures, in different languages, through different persons born in different nations *

* Muhammad calls previous revelations, through earlier prophets, also by the name Qurān (from *qīra*, to speak, to cry , Skt *kṛ*, to do, cre-ate, express by word-sound) He is said to have declared, *khāṭim-un-nabīat*, 'I am the last of the prophets.' Others read the word as *khāṭam* 'seal'. Some over-zealous fanatical persons, with their usual tendency to excess and extremism, interpret the expression as 'the closing seal', signifying that the line of prophet is closed, that there is to be no other prophet at all in future The true meaning, in view of the other declarations of Muhammad (Q. and H), above quoted, whether we read the word as *khāṭim* or *khāṭam*, is obviously this, *viz* , 'I am only the last, *at the present time*, of a long line of prophets and I only put the seal of confirmation upon what my predecessors in prophetship have declared and taught, I do not say anything new'. As Jesus the Christ said, 'I come only to fulfil the law and the prophets.'

having the same taste as mine, when his taste does not interfere with my enjoyment of mine? But we all have to drink water and breathe air in order to dissolve and assimilate our respective special foods. Even so are the *Common Essentials* necessary for even the due enjoyment of the *Separate Non-Essentials*

In the minds of some individuals, among some communities, or even perhaps in a large portion of a whole nation, there may be revolt against religion for special reasons. The Soviet Government of Russia is said to have set itself to abolish religion from the face of that country. But this policy was changed some years ago. It was found that great masses of the people were clinging to their ikons and their churches, and refused to part with them despite grievous persecution. The Soviet Government has decided to 'let alone' and 'let be'.¹

¹ M Maisky, Soviet Ambassador, speaking in London, in September, 1941, said "The Soviet Union considers that religion is a private matter for each citizen. Despite what is thought by many, religion in my country is not persecuted, every citizen having the right to believe or not, according to his conscience. Article 124 of the Stalin Constitution (of 1936?) reads 'In order to ensure the citizen's freedom of conscience, the Church in Soviet Russia is separated from the State, and the School from the Church. Freedom of religious working (? worship) and freedom of anti-religious propaganda is recognised.'

So too does *Vēda* enjoin on all,

Samānī va ākūtih, samānī hrdayāni vah,
Samānam-astu vo mano, yathā vah su-saha-satī.

Samānī prapā, saha vo anna-bhāgah,

Samāné yoktré saha vo yunajmi,

Samyancho Agním saparyaṭa,

Arā nābhīm iva abhitah.

San-gachchhadhvam, sam-vadadhvam,

Sam vo manāmsi jānaṭām. (V.).

(Your heart, mind, object—may all these be One,
So shall you prosper, all, and live in peace,
In common be your food and drink and work;
God harnesses you all to the same yoke,
The sacrificial Fire of Spirit tend
Ye all with one intent, as spokes the nave,
Walk ye together on the Path of Life,
And speak ye all with voice unanimous,
And may your minds all know the Self-Same

Truth.)

"Be ye all of one mind." (B., Peter, First Epistle)

"We, being many, are one bread and one body,
for we are all partakers of that One Bread." (Eucharist Ritus).

"Seek to be in harmony with all your neighbours;
live in amity with your brethren" (C., *Shu King*)

"Be ye all like-minded, compassionate, loving
as brethren, tender-hearted, humble-minded, 'not

a 'civilized' country to-day (and the more 'civilized' it is, the more is this the case) goes about in constant fear for his pocket and his liberty, through fines and jails, if not also for his life through gallows, as a consequence of a chance infringement of any one of a thousand local, special, general, municipal, sumptuary, social, fiscal, executive, procedural, substantive, civil, criminal, etc., laws, which envelope his life as tentacles of an octopus its victim. And 'public servants', ('servants' forsooth!, 'public masters' and 'monarchs of all they survey', rather!), of a hundred departments of the 'benevolent' state are ever on the watch to grab a victim, with, and quite as often without, even merest technical cause. Behaviour of 'myrmidons of law' is now much more arrogant and troublesome than that of 'myrmidons of religion'. A western statistician has calculated that one out of every ten, another that one out of every seven, human beings in a country like England, passes through the clutches of one penal law or another, and pays a fine or serves a term in jail. Surely this cannot be a mark of health in a civilization. Too much religion kills God, the God in Man; enslaves him to fear-pervaded trembling superstition, instead of bringing him Freedom from all fear. Too much law kills peace of mind and body, enslaves man to bureaucrat and expertcraft, instead of giving him ordered liberty.

Rūh bā a'ql o i'līm dānad zīst,

Rūh rā Tāzī wa Türkī n-ist (S., ATTĀR)

Rūh bā a'ql-ast o bā i'līmast yār,

Rūh rā bā (Hindū o Muslim) che kār. (S., RŪMĪ)

(By loving wisdom doth the soul know life.

What has it got to do with senseless strife

Of Hindū, Muslim, Christian, Arab, Turk ?)

Vēdic Scripture repeatedly declares that the soul has no creed, caste, color, race, or sex.

Indeed only the names, the words, differ. The thing meant is the same. Allāh means God, Akbar means greatest, Ishvara or Déva means God, Parama or Mahā means greatest; Allāh Akbar literally means Param-Eshwara or Mahā-Déva Zoroastrian Ahura-Mazdāo (equivalent to Samskr̥t Asura-Mahad-dhā), also means the 'wisest' and the 'greatest' God. Rahīm and Shīva both mean the (passively) Benevolent and Merciful; Rahmān and Shankara both mean the (actively) Beneficent. Dāsa and Abd both mean servant; Qādir and Bhagavān both mean Him who is possessed of *Qudrat*, Bhaga, Aishvarya, Might, Lordliness, Bhagavān Dās is absolutely the same as Abd-ul-Qādir, Servant of God the Almighty.

Such is a very simple but very clear illustration of the fact that differences between religions are differences only of words, names, languages, or of non-essential superficial forms; and sometimes of

(He who avoids extremes, in feed and fast,
 In sleep and waking, and in work and play.
 He winneth yoga, balance, peace, and joy.)
 Tasmād vīqvān bhavaṭi n-āṭi-vāḍi. (U.)
 Āṭi-vāḍāñs-ṭīṭikshhēṭa. (M.)

(The wise man ever studiously avoids
 Extremes in speech and act, himself : and when
 Others press to extremes in heated speech,
 He passes by, in quiet, answering not.)

Loo-tze says :

"Continuing to fill a pail after it is full, the water will be wasted. Continuing to grind an axe after it is sharp, will wear it away. Excess of light blinds the eye. Excess of sound deafens the ear. Excess of condiments deadens the taste. He who possesses moderation is lasting and enduring. Too much is always a curse, most of all in wealth."

(T., *Tao Teh King*.)

Confucius says :

"Commit no excess ; do nothing injurious ; there are few who will not then take you for their pattern. . . . The will should not be gratified to the full : pleasures should not be carried to excess." (C.. Sh; King ; Li-ki.)

chapters to the injunction : 'Eat measured quantities'. *māṭrā-ashṭīyam*, 'eat within strict limits'. The Persian phrase is *fakafiz-i-huqūq*, 'observance, maintenance, of limits'.

in consequence of new conditions of new times. Thus each particular religion has put on the appearance of newness; and the more so because the *new ritual* gradually overpowers, covers up, hides away completely, the Ancient Core, so that the Means swallow the End, and begin themselves to pose as the end. The case of new civilisations, which grow up and decay side by side with new religions, is the same. The language, dress, food, housing, social conventions, manners-and-morals, marriage forms, domestic ways, art-forms, recreations, etc., of each, are more or less different from those of others; yet the essential urges, needs, appetites, mental and bodily faculties, which are exercised in, and satisfied by, each, are the same. The God in Man, and in all Living Beings, fulfils Him-Self in ever-varying ways; in every way is He Him-Self fulfilled.

To some minds, the work of pursuing, discovering, clasping to their heart, such agreements, is a great joy; and the opposite process of dwelling upon differences alone, a sheer pain.

The Joy of Agreement

Khush-tar ān bāshad ke sīrē dīl-barān
 Gufṣā īyad dar hadīse dīgarān (S)
 (It is a great delight to find
 One's own thought in another mind—
 The secret of the Lovely One,

- (i.e., to keep) within the limits set by instinct and reason . This is the fundamental conception of "Due Measure" (Sh , Inazo Nitobe, *Japan*, 321, 322).

As the teaching of Buddha is known as *Majjhima Patipadā*, so the Jaina way, taught by Mahāvīra Jina, is known as *An-ek-ānta-vāda*, the Doctrine and the Way of Non-Extremism.

*Ekēn-ākarshantī, shlathayantī vastu-fattvam itaréna
Anténa, jayati Jainī nītir, manthāna-nétram iva gopī*
(AMRTA CHANDRA SŪRI),

(E'en as the dairy-maid, pulling and slacking
The two ends of the churning-string by turns,
Churns out the golden butter from the milk,
E'en so the sage, working alternately
At both the two inevitable sides
Of every question, finds the perfect Truth.)

Muhammad enjoins the same

Lā ta'tadu inn-Allāhā lā yohibbul ma'tadīn. (Q)

(God loves not those who go beyond due bounds)

" Courage is the mean between cowardice and rashness, discriminate liberality, bet. stinginess and extravagance, ambition, bet. sloth and greed , modesty, bet. humility and pride; honest speech, bet. secrecy and loquacity, good humour bet, moroseness and buffoonery , friendship, bet. quarrelsomeness and flattery; self-control, bet indecision and impulsiveness ." these thoughts are ascribed to Aristotle

Dar āyīna gar-che khud-numāī bāshad,
 Paiwasta ze khwésh-ṭan judāī bāshad,
 Khud rā ba libās i-ghair didan a'jab ast,
 K-iñ b-ul a'jabī kār-i-Khudāī bāshad. (S.)

(The vacant looking-glass doth show the Self,
 Yet in that Self there is an Otherness !
 Marvel ! In mask of Other to see Self ;
 This shining miracle of miracles.
 Than God's Own Self None-Other can achieve !)

The Play, Krīdā, *Laib* and *Lahw*, of God is an Inter-play of love, *Ishq-bāzī*, Rāsa-lilā, between God's Self and His reflected image, an-Other ; the same yet not the same ; indeed reversed. We cannot realise the full significance of our own thoughts until we see them reflected in another mind. That is why speakers wish to be heard, authors wish to be read, artists wish to be appreciated, by others. To cognise an idea through the veil of one language only, is to see it with one eye only, as it were, from one standpoint, in one perspective only. To see it through another language also, is to see it with both eyes from many angles of vision, through a stereoscope. A new fullness of meaning breaks out from the two sets of words, and stands forth in clear relief, almost independent of all words. Communion between two friends brought up in two different cultures, but able to realise the underlying identity

punish, not thoughtlessly, love and guard the spouse, without jealousy, be refined, but not supercilious; feed delicately, not unwholesomely; enjoy conjugal pleasure, not over-much; honor the worthy, not proudly; serve, without deceit; propitiate, without fawning; be clever, not out of season; be angry, not without strong cause, be gentle, not to the mischievous; worship Deity, without display."

Every question has two inevitable sides. Wisdom consists in reconciling the two, by just compromise between them, in accord with the requirements of time-place-circumstance.

Duality of God's Nature There are these two sides to every question, because-

Sarvam dvam-dva-mayam jagat.
Sarvāṇi cha dvam-dvāṇi (U.)

Dvam-dvair-ayojayat ch-ēmāḥ
Sukha-duhkha-ādibhīḥ prajāḥ. (M)

(The world is made of pairs of opposites;
All things occur in pairs of two and two;
The Maker fused Duality in all,
Sorrow and Joy foremost of all these pairs)

Khalaqna min kulle shayīn zaujain. (Q.)
(I, the Supreme and Universal Self,
Have made all things in pairs of spouse and
spouse).

Europe, in the plumes of the Amer-indian, the toga of the departed Roman, the mail of the medieval knight of Asia and Europe! Beloved! will you not be able to recognise your own True Self, your own Beautiful Face, your own Gracious Goodness, in all these disguises, when a mirror is placed before you, each time your garments are changed? Beloved! you must recognise your own voice and your own meaning, surely, whether you speak in Samskr, or Arabic, or Hebrew or Greek, or Latin, or Chinese, or Japanese or Zend or Pāli, or Prākrt, or Gurmukhi, or any of the thousands of languages you yourself are always inventing, and forgetting from time to time, in order to fashion new others for your Infinite Play and Pas-time!

Underneath, soaked through and through, permeating, pervading, holding fast together, all Multitude, remains ever the Unity This is the One Fact to be remembered always.

Pots, pans, jugs, jars, tumblers, decanters, kettles are many and of many shapes; the water in them all is one. Lamps and lanterns and electric bulbs are many and of many shapes; the light is one. Wood, coal, oil, fuels are many and of many shapes, the fire is one Living organisms are many and of many shapes; the life in all is one Religions are many and of many forms and formalities, the Universal Religion is One. . .

Yathā shīt-oshnayor madhyē
 n-aiv-aushṇyam na cha shītatā,
 Tathā sthitam padam shāntam,
 madhyē vai sukha-dukhayoh. (*Mbh.*)

(There is a middle point, nor hot nor cold,
 On the two sides of which spread cold and heat ;
 So, of the Middle point, where there is Peace,
 On the two sides, surge seas of Pain and Joy.)

Dvau éva chintayā muktau, param-ānandé āplutau,
 Yo vi-mudho jado bālo, yo gunébhyah param gaṭah.

(Two are the ' free from care ' and steeped in bliss—
 The child with mind ungrown, and also he
 Who goes beyond the threefold attributes
 Of Nature and beholds the God of Nature,
 While in between the two, the staging Soul,
 Struggles with joys and sorrows, pleasures-pains.)

Ichchhā-dvēsha-samutthēna
 dvam-dva-mohēna, Bhārata !,
 Sarva-bhūtāni sam-moham
 sargé yānti, paran-tapa !,
 Yēshām tu anta-gatam pāpam,
 janēnām punya-karmanām,
 Tē dvam-dva-moha-nir-muktāh
 bhajanṭē Mām drdha-vratāh.

virtue, which is also necessarily present in the sub-and-supra-conscious deeps of his (sleeping) mind, to sprout and come to the surface and manifest. If one religion appreciates another, that other will further develope the aspect appreciated, and will also reciprocate, and appreciate the one and help it to develope similarly also¹

The saintly statesman, Prince Regent Shotoku of Japan, "one of the best known figures in Japanese history, for whom, when he died in 621 A.D., the old wept as if they had lost a child, and the young as if they had lost a parent,"² reconciled the indigenous religion Shintoism, and the newly come Buddhism and Confucianism, when conflict between the priests threatened to fill the land with dissensions, in this wise. "Shinto is the source and root of the Way, and, shot up with the sky and the earth, teaches man the primal Way, Classicism (Confucianism) is the branch and foliage

¹ Compare the English adage, 'Give a dog a bad name and hang it'. This may be supplemented with, 'Give a dog a good name, and tame it'

² A beautiful little Persian verse says

Yād dārī he waqṭe zādan-i-to,
Hamān kħandān budand o tū giriyān
Chūn Zī ke waqṭ i-murdan-i-to,
Hamān giriyān buwānd o tū khandān

(When thou wast born, all laughed and thou didst cry:
Live so, that, when thou passest, all shall cry,
And thou alone shalt laugh, rising on High!)

Renunciation endless is his, who
Neither desireth aught nor hateth aught.
He who flings off the ever-wrestling Twins,
With ease he breaketh all his bonds of soul.
The Duads that take birth with Love-and-Hate—
Intoxicate with these, all beings rush
Into the whirlings of this wheeling world.
They who with Virtues balance up their Vice,
They leave them Both behind, and pass beyond
Into the restful realm of deathless Peace.
They who have cast aside all Pride and Fear,
Conquered lusts of the flesh, its Loves and Hates,
And tied their hearts to Me, the Self of All,
They thrust aside the glamorous warring Pairs,
Whose primal name and form is Pleasure-Pain ;
They come to Me, the Universal-Self,
And enter into My eternal Peace)

To *realise in mind*, that the very nature of World-Process, of all life, of separate individuality, is *necessarily*, inevitably, a mixture of joy and sorrow, good and evil, that we *cannot* have gains without pains, nor pains without gains, so long as we feel identified with separate bodies ; thus realising, to experience and bear both joys and sorrows with 'equable' mind, with 'peace' at heart, and to go on discharging duties without craving for selfish recompense ; this is to transcend Duality, 'to fling off all

entering into holy souls, maketh them friends of God, and prophets" ¹

Tafraqā dar nafs-i-hawānī buwad,
Rūh-i-wāhiq rūh-i-insānī buwad. (S)

(Separatism, difference, exclusiveness,
Characterise at once the animal mind :
The soul of oneness is the soul of man,
The soul of all-inclusive Sympathy,
Of Unity and of non-separateness)

The Arabic-Persian word for man, *insān*, (from *ins*, *uns*, sympathy), means etymologically 'the friend of all,' 'the lover of his kind,' the 'gentleman'. So the Samskr̥t word ārya (from त्, to go) means 'the person to whom others, when trouble befalls them, go for relief,' 'he who is approached for help'.

Sarva-bhūtēshu yēna ēkam
bhāvam avyayam īkshaṭé,
A-vi-bhaktam vi-bhaktēshu
ṭaj-jñānam sāttvikam smrtam.
Pr̥thaktyēna tu yaj-jñānam
nānā bhāvān pr̥thag-vidhān,
Vētti sarvēshu bhūtēshu
ṭaj-jñānam viddhi rājasam (G.)

¹ J. E. Carpenter, *sibd*, 66, 67

Zaraṭhustra says

At tā maīnyū po-uruyé Yā yémā khafenā asra-vātēm manahī chā vachahī chā shya-oṭhano-i. Hī vahyo-akém cha, āos chā hudā-onghaho. Ěrésh vishvātā no it duzhadā-ongho.

At chā hyat tā hérm maīnyū jasa-étém paurvīm dazdē ga-ém chaajyā-ītlīm chā. Yatha chā anghaṭ apémém anghush achishto drégyatām at ashā-ūnē vahishtēm mano

Hamém tat vahishtā-chīṭ yé ūshurayé syas-chīṭ dah-mabyā, kshayāns, Mazhadā Aburā I, yéhyā mā ā-īthīsh chīṭ dva-éthā; hyatā a-énanghé drégyaṭo é-é-ānū išhyéng anghahyā (Z., Gāthā, 30. 3, 4; 32. 16).¹

anything, you cannot know yourself . . . The moral equipoise—the Golden Mean—is the attainment of godhead. Freedom and restraint, the 'Do s' and the 'Don't-s' in the moral world, act like the centripetal and centrifugal forces in the physical, to keep a balance " Inazo Nitobe, *Ibid.*

¹ Sanskrit form of these, in prose order is:

Aṭha yau paurvya[u] [purānau] manyū yamau svapha[u] [sva-ṭanṭrau iva] ashruyēṭām tau manasi cha vachasi cha syoṭhané [sādhānē karmani] cha [stah], Tau vahiyas [variyas, pupiyam] cha, agham [pāpam] cha. Anayoh su ḏhāh [su-ḍhīh] ḫsb [ṛtam, sat, saṭyam] vikṣhaṭi, no it ḫdur-ḍhāh [dur-ḍhīh]

Aṭha cha yadā ūtā manyū paurvīm samajasēṭām (sam-asajaṭām or sam-ajasaṭām, tadā) gāyam cha ayyāṭām cha (? cf. rayum cha prānam cha, vāk cha prānah cha) daḍhē (daḍhaṭé). Yaṭhā (yaḍā) cha asoh apamam

Nahi sarva-hitah kash-chid
 āchārah sam-pra-vartaté
 Tasmād anyah pra-bhavati ,
 sah aparam bādhata punah ,
 Āchārānām an-aikāgryam
 tasmāt sarvatra lakshayé

(*Mbh*, Shānti-parva.)

(Changes of time and place and circumstance
 Always cause changes in the duties too
 The law for men is one in time of peace,
 And quite another in calamity.)

(There is no single custom that holds good
 Always. Therefore doth dharma e'er depend
 On circumstance. No special law and manner
 Hath e'er been found which giveth only help
 To all and everyone, and hurt to none ;
 Therefore 'tis changed for one that does seem
 better,

More suited to the different conditions
 Hence do we see the great variety
 In laws and customs of humanity.)

Anyé Kṛta-yugé dharmāḥ, Trētāyām, Dvāparé,
 aparé,
 Anyé Kali-yugé nrīnām, yuga-hrās-ānu-rūpatāḥ.
 (M.)

And gain the reign of One—as is desired
 Unconsciously, by e'en the graceless ones,
 The evil sinners, in their heart of hearts)'

The fact of this all-permeating Duality is signified pre-eminently by the very Names, in opposed Pairs, given to God in Islām as well as Vaidika Dharma. He is Al-Awwal and Al-Ākhir, Ādī and Anta, First and Last, Alpha and Omega, Al-Bātin and Az-Zābir, Avyakta and Vyakta, Inner and Outer, Unmanifest and Manifest, the Universal Un-Conscious, Sub-Conscious, Supra-Conscious, and the Individual and Particular Conscious, seed of tree and tree of seed; Al-Bādī and Al-Jāmī, Srashtā and Samharṭā, Spreader-out and Gatherer-in, Al-Muhīyy and Al-Mumīt, Bhava and Hara, Giver of Life and Giver of Death; Al-Samad and Al-Muhaimīn, A-Kāma and Sarva-kāma, the Ever-Perfect and Desireless and

¹ All *Gāthā* texts have been taken from the very painstaking and illuminative edition of *Gāthās*, with Samskrīt, English, Gujrātī translations and notes, by J. M Chatterjee and A. N. Bihimonya, (Cherāg Office, Navasari; pub 1932)

Words within square brackets, in the Samskrīt version above, have been added by the present writer, as suggestions, the English translation is a free version of that by J. M. Chatterji, but care has been taken to preserve the sense correctly.

between the essentials and the non-essentials, *pradhāna* and *gauna amsha*, *usūl* and *furu'*, of religion. Describing the purpose of his work, the famous *Masnawī*, which is accepted by the Muslim world generally as next to *Qurān* itself in holiness, he says :

Man ze Qur-ān maghz rā bar-dāshṭam,

Ustukhān pēshē sagān andākhtam. (S.)

(The marrow from the *Qur-ān* have I drawn
And the dry bones unto the dogs have cast.)

As regards the profound respect in which the *Masnawī* is held among learned divines of Islām, a verse is current among them :

Man che goyam wasf-i-ān ā'lī janāb,

N-īst paigham-bar walé dārad kītāb

(How may we well describe this great soul's
greatness !

He is not called a Messenger from God,

Yet in his hands he holds a Holy Script)

Jesus has a blunt saying similar to Rūmī's, about "casting pearls before swine", i.e., those as yet unable to appreciate them. Krshna condemns in very plain terms those who are always harping upon outer ritual and neglecting inner wisdom.

Yām imām pushpiṭām vācham

pra-vadanti a-vipash-chitah,

Vēda-vāda-ratāh, Pārtha,

n-ānyad-ast-ītu vādinah. (G.)

radiance; *kalyāna-guna-s* and *bhīma-guna-s*, beneficent and terrific (punitive) attributes.¹

¹ In the Jewish *Kabala* (*Qabbalah*), the attributes of the Supreme Being, which correspond to types or aspects or kinds of creation, are called the ten Sephiroth, emanations of Adam Kadmon (Adam-i-Qadim), the Ancient Man, the Eternal and Infinite Macrocosm. The ten are The Crown, Wisdom, Prudence, Magnificence, Severity, Beauty, Victory, Glory, Foundation, Empire. Wisdom is called Jeh or Jāh; Prudence, Jehovah, Severity, Elohim, Magnificence, El, Victory and Glory, Sabaoth; Empire or Dominion, Adonai. Other names and aspects are mentioned, as, Sephira, the Androgyn (Ardha-nārī-īshvara, in Skt.), Hakama, Wisdom, Binah, Intelligence, Hesed, Mercy, Geburah or Eloha, Justice Tiphereth, Beauty, Netzah, Firmness, Hod, Splendor, Jesod, Foundation. Hakama, Hesed, Netzah are the three male Sephiroth, known as the Pillar of Mercy, Binah, Geburah, Hod, are feminine, and named the Pillar of Judgment, the four Sephiroth of the Centre, Kether, Tiphereth, Jesod, and Malkuth, are called the Middle Pillar. (H. P. Blavatsky, *Isis Unveiled*, II, 205, 213, 215)

From Zoroastrian scriptures, especially *Ahura Mazada Yasht* the learned have made up lists of twenty, fifty-three, eighty-one, and one hundred and one, names of Ahurā Mazāda, which is the most famous name, as Allah is the most famous of the hundred names of God given in *Qurān*. Some of the more eminent names are Frakshṭya, the Sustainer (cf. Vēdīc Su-pṛkṣh), Avitanya, All-pervading, (V Abhi tanya), Vispa-vohu (Vishva), All Good, Asha-vahishṭa, Supreme Truth, Khratu, Supreme Knowledge, (V Kraṭu, Persian Khīrad, Chishṭi, Supreme Wisdom or Consciousness, (V Chit), Spāna, Supreme Holiness, Sevishṭa, Almighty, Avanémna, Invincible, Vispa-hishas, All-seeing, Dāta, Creator, (Skt., Dhāta), Thratā, Preserver, (Trāṭa),

The older-minded in the orbs of space ;
 The wise see Him in all-pervading Self.)

" We speak wisdom among the perfect or initiated, not the wisdom of this world, nor of the archons of this world, but divine wisdom in a mystery, secret—which none of the archons of this world know." (B., Paul.)

Jesus says :

" To you it is given to know the mysteries of the Kingdom of Heaven, but to them it is not given. For whosoever hath (the key) to him shall be given, and he shall have more abundance, but whoever hath not, (or is likely to misuse the key to the sacred secret knowledge), from him shall be taken away even that (which) he hath " (B.)¹

¹ In the minor Eleusinian Mysteries of Greece, a sow was washed to typify the purification of the neophyte, as her return to the mire indicated the superficial nature of the work that had been accomplished H P Blavatsky, *Isis Unveiled*, II, 493 For many quotations from others, see H.P.B., *The Secret Doctrine*, vol v, section iv (Adyar edition). See also the articles 'Mystery' and 'Eleusis' in *Enc Brit*. The rites and ceremonies of Vedic ya ; si a may be regarded as an earlier form of such 'mystery-initiations'

These minor and major Eleusinian Mysteries, into which only the select were initiated, are constantly referred to in Greek literature All the great dead religions had their 'mysteries' and their ceremonial initiations of the worthy into them. They were dramatic ceremonies symbolising the psychical, moral, and also physical trials and tests of the progress of the soul from stage to stage

Principles constitutes the universe "¹ "The final principle of an undivided One is Tai Chi, the great ridge-beam , out of it develop Yang and Yin "²

" R_i is reason, or law, K_i is matter ; the two give rise to all phenomena, physical and spiritual . . . There are two phases of K_i—Yin and Yo (Chinese Yang). The latter light, is positive, active, male , the former dark, negative, passive, female All phenomena owe their origin to the action, reaction, interaction, and counter-action of these forces . . Sometimes Yin is spoken of as water, Yo as fire ; "³ in Skt., agnī-shomīyam jagat, "the world is made of fire and water, heat and moisture.'

name we may Indeed, all names, in every language and every religion are His

Yār-é mārū har Zamānū
nām o nishānē digar ast
Kulle yaumin hūfi-éshānū
yak nishānē digar ast (S.)

(In new and splendid state
He shines forth every day,
Bearing new names and forms
Seeming opposed, yet One),
Navo navo bhavati jāyamānah
abnām kēṭub (V)
(Ever a-New doth rise the Flag of day)

¹ Suzuki, *History of Chinese Philosophy*, 15, 16, (pub : 1914)

² Wilhelm and Jung, *The Secret of the Golden Flower, a Chinese Book of Life* (1931), 12, 13.

³ Inazo Nitobe, *Ibid.*, 345.

high civilization. It is noteworthy that every historic civilisation has had, and has today, its specific religion, its worshipped ideal. Indeed, the birth of a new religion, *i.e.*, a fresh re-viv-al of the *Spirit* of religion, whence united co-operation, has invariably preceded, and given birth to, a new civilisation.

The corresponding Védic word is Dharma, from धृ, to hold and bind together, which has exactly the same significance.

A Jaina sage defines Dharma thus

Samsāra-đuhkhaṭah sañ्चार
Yo dharati uttamē sukhē
(SAMANTA-BHADRA).

(That which leads beings out of the world's woes,
And 'holds them fast' in highest bliss, is
Dharma.)

We have seen (p. 68) that the Vaishéshika philosopher's definition is, 'That which helps to achieve abhyu-daya, prosperity, here, and also nis-
shréyas, highest happiness, hereafter, that is Dharma', the joys of earth and heaven, and the bliss of realised Infinitude and Immortality, during the life on earth and thereafter too. Manu says,

Dandam Dharmam vidur-budhāḥ.

and Hate as the two ultimate dynamic uniting and separating principles¹

Another, earlier, Herachitus (circa 500 B.C.) says :
" God is Day-Night, Winter-Summer, Love-Hate,
War-Peace, Repletion-Want, Heat-Cold, Death-Life,
Youth-Age, Waking-Sleep, Creation-Destruction "

Har kamālē rā zawałé, har zawałé rā kamālē.

(Persian proverb).

(Every virtue has its vice ,
Every vice its virtue, too).

Subūt-i-shay ba zidd-i-shay (Persian philosophical maxim).

(Each thing is proven by its opposite.)

Omnis determinatio est negatio

(All determination is negation of the opposite.)

Sarv-ārambhā hī doshēna

dhūmēna-agnir-iv-āvṛṭāh. (G.)

N-āty-antam guna-vat̄ kin-chit̄,

n-āty-antam dosha-vat̄ tathā (Mb.).

(As fire doth carry smoke within itself,

So every action carries a defect ;

Naught is there wholly good or wholly bad.)

¹ Schwegler, *History of Philosophy*, (translated by J. H. Stirling), art. ' Empedocles '

impose upon himself some unselfish self-repression, self-restraint, self-denial, also. Egoism and altruism make each other possible. Each disappears without the other. Such is the Law of Duality, which pervades the Multiplicity of the World-Process, in subordination to the supreme Law of Sacrifice, *yajñā, qurbānī*, of one's own smaller self's lower desires, in ever-growing degree, from birth to death of body.

Saha-yajñāḥ prajāḥ sṛṣṭvā
purā uvācha Prajā-patiḥ—
Anéna pra-savishyadhvam,
ésha vo astu ishta-kāma-dhuk. (G.)

(By sacrifice of His own Perfect Being,
His Else-denying 'Singleness of Self,'
The Lord created countless Progeny
Of 'Many selves', together with the Law
Of Sacrifice; and gave them this command :
'By Mutual Sacrifice, by Mutual Help,
Shall ye all grow, prosper, and multiply,
This is the cow will milk you all rich things')

The self-sacrifice of each *smaller* self for the sake of the *larger* Self, which larger self is *felt* to be embodied in Society as a *whole*, and the corresponding self-sacrifice of that *larger* Self or Society for the sake of each *smaller* self, which smaller self is *felt* to be integral *part* of the *whole*—this mutual

shall not profit a man anything if he gain the whole world but lose his own soul.' If they are not given true and scientific religion by the philanthropic and the wise, then men will inevitably swallow false and superstitious religion given to them by priestcraft.

Only those who cannot 'look before and after', who cannot think at all about such things, as animals, such have no craving for religion. Also those who have thought very deeply and very far; examined all the before and all the after; seen all there is to see; found the Eternal Now and the Infinite Here, the Ever-present and the Omni-present, between the Before and the After; found the secret in their own Infinite Self—they also no longer crave religion. They have achieved the purpose of Religion. Perfection of Religion alone can abolish need for it. At the present stage of human evolution, such perfected souls are not many. The vast mass of mankind feel that need acutely, intensely, perpetually. That is why Religion survives. If it decays and dies in one form, it forthwith takes a new birth in another.

Yas-tu mūdha-tamo loka,
yash-cha buddheh param gatah,
Dvau imau sukham édhété,
klishyati-antarīgo janah.

"Thy will be done, Lord !, not mine ", whence only the mind, the heart, at peace with itself and with all the world

The significance of 'Dharma' is the same, for what else can 'hold together' living beings than mutual 'rightful-ness' and 'du(e)-ti-fulness', mutual righteousness and duteousness, mutual rights-and-duties, through common 'submission' to the Will of the Divine Self ? The very important question arises here at once. How may human beings ascertain what the Will of the Divine Self is, generally; and, even more, in particular cases. The answer, in brief, is. (a) Universal Essential Religion, Scientific Religion, Spiritual Science, tells us what that Will is, generally, (b) *particularly, good-and-wise* laws, defining rights-and-duties, made by *good-and-wise* legislators, who know, love, fear God, i.e., the Supreme, Universal Self of All ; who therefore disinterestedly wish well to all just interests of all sections, classes, vocations, who, as far as is humanly possible, are 'near God', are 'Sons of God', are embodiments of the Higher, Better, Nobler, Wiser, Philanthropic Self of the People, and who are sincerely trusted, honored, and duly selected and elected by the People to make laws,—such laws will represent the Divine Will, as nearly as possible for human beings It is obvious that only good-and-wise laws can promote the general welfare, and that

He who hath found the Loved One, hath no more
Craving or need for any Object left.)

If it be true, as it obviously is true, that the human heart has an ineradicable conviction that there is Something beyond this life, and yearns to know about It and Its relation with this life ; if it be true, as it evidently is true, that science is for life, and not life for science ; then surely man cannot and will not accept as final, the view that any possible conflict between Science and Religion is incurable. Such a view means that Truth is self-contradictory, that Science is not consistent in all its parts. But this cannot be. It must not be. Truth, Science, *Vēda*, *Haqiqat*, *Mārifat*, Gnosis, *Jñāna*, (all meaning the same thing), must be all-inclusive, all-explaining, all-reconciling. Otherwise, it is not Truth. This common conviction shows forth from behind the most hostile-seeming words.

The man of modern style piques himself on eating, drinking, bathing, sleeping, dressing, housing, travelling, doing all things, in short, in the name of Science and Law. The man of older style has been trying to do all these same things in the name of God and Religion. Yet the two modes are not antagonistic, not even really different. 'In the name of God' means, among other things, 'In the name of God's Nature' ; and, therefore, of the *Laws* of

110 MEANING OF 'I AM WAY, TRUTH, LIFE' [CH I

Tark-i-khudī, Asmitā-tyāga, whence True Knowledge, Right Love, Righteous Action; and the only Light on the Path is the Light within, "the Light that lighteth every one," the Light of the One Self.

Jyotir-Ātmani, na anyatra;
sarva-jantushu tat samam (Bhāg.)

Christ has said: "I am (i.e., is) the Way, the Truth, and the Life" To know that (the) I (is) am all selves is to know the Truth. To love all selves as my-Self is the right Life To do unto all selves as to my-Self is the righteous Way. .

Shinto, (the word is said to be Chinese), the ancient religion of Japan, now practically merged into Buddhism, is *Kāmī-no-michi*, (in the Japanese language), 'the Way of the Spirits,' 'the Divine Way,' 'the Way of God'. *Kāmī* are the indwelling spirits—all sparks of the One Spirit¹

action, . . . livelihood, . . . endeavour (healthy recreation), . . . recollection (mindfulness, alertness), concentration (collectedness of mind, meditation, reposefulness)" These are readily classifiable under *right* thought-desire-action Compare Christ's eight beatitudes. "Blessed are the poor in spirit, . . . they that mourn, . . . the meek, . . . they which hunger and thirst after righteousness, . . . the merciful, . . . the pure in heart, . . . the peace makers, . . . they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake", (B., Matthew, ch 5)

¹ In Shintoism, *Con-tou* is Chaos, *Yo* is Heaven, male ethereal principle. *In* is Earth, female material principle. *Jin* is man; *Amé no āni nākā nushi no Kāmī*

inspirational, of the seers and scientists of all religions and all nations. The obeying of these should obviously bring happiness in this life as well as the life beyond this life.

We have heard of the three R's long enough. This fourth R', of genuine Universal Religion, is more important than them all, and ought to be added to them everywhere, in every school and college. But it has to be carefully discovered and ascertained first. It behoves all sincere educators to help in this work, by applying the scientific method of ascertaining 'agreements amidst differences.' What are the elements common to the great living religions? What are the agreements between them?

We may also call that method, in terms of the democracy in vogue at present, the method of majority-rule. Those truths which all the great living religions vote for—they should be prominently taught to the younger generation.

Some people, bewildered by the rival bigotries, fanatic cries, and bitter hostilities, indulged in by misguided persons, in the name of religion, ask: What right have we to impose upon our children, such evil things, such religions as create enmity between man and man, darken and make

*Imperative
Duty to Teach
such Universal
Religion.*

In every case what is meant is the Way which leads to happiness, to peace; to freedom from bondage to Egoism and thence to doubts, freedom from fear of pain and death; by leading to the God within, i.e., to the realisation of the identity of the individual with the Universal Self, whence illumination, and assurance of Immortality. We have seen before that so long as men fear pain and death, so long will they necessarily crave religion. It is the climax of religion itself which, by proving that all our pain is self-inflicted, (since it comes only as consequence of our own selfish desire), and by

the Essential Concept be than 'as universal as man', when it is the Essence of Man him-Self, is his very Self! What, in *Vēda-mantras*, is named Satya and Rta, is mostly called Brahma and Dharma in *Upanishads* and *Smṛtis*, or Purusha and Prakṛti or Sva-bhāva in some of the *Daishanas*. The words Brahma and Dharma include all the meanings, ascribed above to Tāo, it will be readily noticed that they are all closely allied aspects of the same thing, and shade off into one another.

Dr Michiji Ishikawa, in his paper on 'Shinto Theology', (*The Religions of the World*, I, 371-377, publ. by the Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture, Calcutta, 1938), says "Shinto is the All-pervading Universal Way. According to Shinto mythology Ame-no mi na-ka-nushi (Heaven-centre-ruling Deity) is the Absolute Universal Self, from which both Kankai (visible) and Yukai (invisible) worlds have come into existence through the activities of the three deities of Musubi, the Principles of Creation, of Completion, and of the Controlling Bond between," cf., Brahmap-Shiva-Vishnu."

beings are born into their religions, inherit them, and cling to them exactly in the same way and for the same reasons as they do to inherited property. If a new-born Muslim child and a new-born Hindū child were exchanged and brought up, the one in Hindū, the other in Muslim, surroundings, they would grow up and feel and think and behave as Hindū and as Muslim respectively, and not as Muslim and Hindū. The same would be the case if the landholder's baby were exchanged with a banker's or a peasant's. At the same time, it is equally indisputable that anyone and everyone can withdraw his faith from any religion and put it in any other, whenever he likes, can put off one and put on another at will. Yet also, the vast majority of human beings crave, indeed everyone in the secret depths of his heart somewhere yearns, for religion in its deepest sense—of contact with, assurance of, support by, refuge and rest in, the Immortal. All this clearly signifies that Religion is necessary to man; that no *particular form* of religion is indispensable; that there are two alternatives open to us, either to reject all religions or to accept all religions; that both are impracticable; and that, therefore, the only practical, as also best, most satisfying, and wise course, is the third alternative, to sift out the elements of *Essential Religion* from the non-essential (though, for their time, place, and

Right Desire, and Right Action—Samyak-dṛṣṭi, Samyak-sankalpa, and Samyak-vyāyāma, which are same as the three Vaidika Mārgas Jaina teaching is same.

Samyag-darshana-jñāna-chāritryāṇि Moksha-Mārgah.
(UMĀ-SWĀMĪ, *Tattva-ārtha Sūtra*)

(The way to Liberty is Right Desire,
Right Knowledge, and Right Conduct—three in
one).

These are known as the 'three jewels', ratna-traya, in Jainism.

Darshana here stands for ichchhā or bhakti, and chāritrya for kriyā or karma.

I am (a) the Truth, (b) the Life, (c) the Way. (B)
Sharia't rā shaār-e-khwesh sāzad,
Tariqa't rā wiśār-e-khwésh sāzad,
Haqīqa't khud maqām-é-zāt-i-Ū dān,
Buwad dāyam miyān-é-kufr-o-imān.

(S , *Gulshan-i-Rāz*.)

(His outer garment woven is of Works;
His inner, of Devotion's ecstasy;
Him-Self, Knowledge of Truth, that wears the two
Standing between belief and unbelief.)

Yogās-trayo mayā proktāḥ,
, Jñānam, Bhaktish-cha, Karma cha. (Bh.)

energy ; that, finally, to Mind-force ; (pp 22-30 *supra*).¹

The most passionate advocate of the utmost possible 'liberty' for the younger generation, who urges that it should be allowed to grow up according to its own 'free-will', its own inner promptings, inclinations, likes and dislikes, still unavoidably, helplessly, actively *teaches something* to the young ; and that something is necessarily what he thinks best and most useful for them to learn ! Bolshevik Communists of Russia are teaching 'Communism' to their young, most intensively ; Fascists of Italy, 'Fascism' ; Democratists of Britain, U.S.A. France, 'Democratism'. Each, in words, professes 'liberty' for youth, but largely relies for its success, on imbuing youth with its own ideas ! The element of truth, in the plea that 'the younger generation

¹ Aristotle defines meta-physic, *meta-ta physisca*. 'that which is after physics, which transcends, is beyond, the physical or material, as *proto-philosophia*, 'the first and fundamental philosophy'—the same thing as 'the foundation of all sciences'. Obviously the Science of the Infinite ranks before, and is the basis of, all Sciences of the Finite. Compare,

Sa Brahma-Vidyām sarva-vidyā-praṭiṣṭhām
Atharvāya jyēṣṭha-puṭrāya prāha (Uṛ)
(Brahmā declared unto his son Aṭharva,
The Science of the Self, the Infinite—
Foundation, source, and synthesiser too,
Of all the sciences of finite things.)

Chittam éva hi Sam-sārah;
 Tam prayatiéna shodhayét,
 Yach-chittas-tan-mayo bhavaṭi;
 Guhyam etat Sanātanam.

(*Maitrāyanī Up.*, iv. 4. 3.)

(The mind in all the world; then make it pure,
 As is his mind, such is the man always,
 Mind well this truth that comes from time of old;)

Vāg-dando-(a)tha mano-dandah
 kāya-ḍandas-tatha-iva cha.
 Yasya-éte nihitā budhbau,
 tri-dandī-ti sa uchyaté. (M.)

Kāyéna samvaro sādhu, sādhu vāchāya samvaro,
 Maṇasā samvaro sādhu, sādhu sabbattha samvaro,
 Sabbattha sambuto bhikkhū sabba-dukkhā
 pamuchchaṭi. (Dh.)

(Good is it to control the thought, the speech,
 The act, the wise man who will thus restrain
 All these, he will, for sure, cast off all pain;
 He is true ' thrice-ruled ' bhikkhu-san-nyāsi)

In these three words, knowledge—desire—action,
 jñāna—ichchhā—kriyā (corresponding with
 saṭṭva—tamas—rajas), ilm—kṛicāhush—fa'l, u'rf
 —srādah—a'mal, we find indicated, in terms of

philosophical basic *principles*, fundamental facts, laws, needs of *human nature*, has been largely lost sight of. To revive memory of Essentials is the only cure everywhere

It has been said before that the new proclamation, of Universal Religion, has to be made on 'democratic' lines, i.e., the lines of 'majority-rule', speaking broadly and generally, (not quite fully and with scientific exactitude, which will be attempted latter). On these lines, those truths and practices which receive, not only the greatest number of, but unanimous, votes from the living religions, those beliefs and observances on which all are agreed, should obviously be regarded as constituting Universal Religion. That there is agreement between the great religions, that all teach the same essential truths, their promulgators themselves are all agreed. We have their clear assurances on this point.

Upanishats say :

Gavām anēka-varnānām
kshīrasya astī éka-varnañā ;
Kshīra-vat pashyañé Jñānam,
linginas tu gavām yathā. (U)

(Cows are of many different colours, but
The milk of all is of one color, white ;
So the proclaimers who proclaim the Truth

Manasi ékam, vachas: ékam,
 karmani ékam mah-ātmanām,
 Manasi anyađ, vachas: anyad,
 karmani anyad dur-ātmanām (Mbh.)

(In the great soul, thought, word, and deed are one;
 In th' evil, all are different, each from each.)

Civilizations are also, correspondingly, made up of (a) bodies of knowledge, science, learning, (b) of special tastes, aspirations, ideals, arts, ruling passions, and (3) of characteristic ways of living, behaviour, forms of enterprise. The larger, the more varied, the more carefully ascertained the knowledge; the nobler, the more aesthetic, artistic, philanthropic, the ideals, tastes, aspirations, emotions; the more refined the ways of living and the more humanitarian and wide-reaching the enterprises and activities—the greater and higher the civilization.

(To those who think good, speak good, and do good,
 And not to those who think ill, speak ill, and do ill,
 Do I belong—saith Ahurā Mazāđā)

(Z , Yasna, 10.16 , T.H.R , p 98)

Compare the Upanishad verse

Eshā daivī vāg anu-vādati stanayitnur, da-da-dāti,—
 dāmyađa-dāta-dayađhvam. (U.)

(Heaven, with voice of thunder, counsels us
 ' Da-dā-dā '—Do deny your lower self,
 Do deeds of charity, and do take ruth
 On all the weak and frail and innocent.)

(Véda, and Sâṅkhyâ, Yoga, Shaiva-view,
 And Vaishnava, and many others such,
 Men follow as they variously incline ;
 Some thinking this is best ; some others, that ;
 Yet thou art the One Goal of all those ways,
 Some straight and easy, others crooked, rough,
 As of the countless streams, the one vast sea.)

Yath-éndriyaibh pr̥thag-dvāraibh,
 artho bahu-guṇ-āshrayah
 Ēko, nānā īyaté, tad-vat
 Bhagavān, shāstra-vartmabhih.

(Bhāg., III, xxxii, 33.)

(E'en as the several senses apprehend
 The different qualities of the same thing,
 So, many lines of searching sciences
 Show aspects, numerous, of the One Lord.)

Yathā nadyah, syandamānāḥ, samudrē
 Astam gachhanti, nāma-rūpē vihāya,
 Tathā vīdvān, nāma-rupād vimuktah,
 Parāt param padam upaiti dīvyam. (Uþ.)

(As streaming rivers pass into the sea,
 Abandoning all separate name and form,
 So, he who sees the One casts off all name
 And form, and merges in the State Beyond.)

strong, fine, righteous character, and trains the body into hardy health, active strength, handsome shape and occupational skill.

This trinity is good, nay, very necessary, for educationists to bear in mind for another vital purpose also, if the indications in the old books be right. In modern educational theory and practice, while, no doubt, some valuable additions have been made, in the way of tests of *degrees* and kinds of *intelligence*, attention does not seem to have been equally given to the testing of *kinds of temperaments*, i.e., whether the element of knowledge predominates in the pupil, or of action, or of desire. Yet without such testing, the secret of the discovery of the vocational aptitude of the student, and of appropriate education and subsequent proper fitting into a society, is not likely to be found.¹ Expert details too often swamp vital principles, in science as well as in religion. So, the wise priest, minister of soul and keeper of conscience will discriminately guide each parishioner along the way of either works, or devotion, or knowledge, according to his inner requirement. So, the wise physician, minister of body, will prescribe only after ascertaining the patient's temperament, constitutional peculiarity, personal idiosyncracy, diathesis.

¹ For fuller exposition of this point, the reader may see *The Science of Social Organisation*, vol II, pp. 682-744 and III, pp 745-766.

(Even the dasyus, tribes uncivilised,
Will have Saoshyantas, apostles, sent
To give them teaching and look after them.)

Kung-fu-tse (Confucius) was a younger contemporary of Lao-tse Buddha lived and taught in India, the younger sister of China, in those same days China has adopted Buddha together with Lao-tse and Confucius as her trinity of great Teachers Confucius says -

" I only hand on ; I cannot create new things." Buddha and Jina speak of past and future Buddhas (*i.e.*, the Enlightened Ones) and Tirthan-karas (*i.e.*, 'makers of the fords or bridges' by which men may cross safely to salvation) who reveal the same fundamental truths, again and again, for the benefit of humanity, only revivifying, confirming, enforcing them by the fire and fervour of their lives *Bible*, *O T*, says :

" Is there anything whereof it may be said, See, this is new ? It hath been already of old time, which was before us . . . There is no new thing under the sun " (*B*, Eccles)

Christ (*i.e.*, 'the anointed with Divine Wisdom') says

" I come not to destroy the law or the prophets, but to fulfil them " (*B*)

1. GOD

The one basic Truth of truths is that Man is in essence one with God , that Nature is God's Nature, the unchanging Self's ever-changing garment , that the meaning and purpose of life is that God has forgotten himself into man, and man should remember himself into God again ; that Spirit has entered into, put on body of, more and more dense Matter, along the Path of *Pra-vṛtti*, (Pursuit of sense-objects, *A-vāroha*, *Qaus-i-Nazzūl*, Arc of Descent), and has to rise again to It-Self along the Path of *Nivṛtti*, (Renunciation, Ā-roha, *Qaus-i-Urūj*, Arc of Ascent) , that Allāh, Param-Ātmā, Universal Self, has individualised It-Self, has super-imposed upon Its true Pure Selfness (or Ownness-One-ness, Pure Being, That-ness, *Tat-tvam*, Thing-in-Itself, Self-in-Itself, Pure Identity, *A'ymyat-i-haqiqī*, Shuddha-a-dvaitam), an illusive Substitutive Other-ness, (False Heterentity, Pure Nothing, *Asat-tvam*, *Ghairiyat-i-śabādī*, Mithyā-ītaratā); that Brahma, (Param-Ātmā, *Khudā-i-murakhkab*, 'All-including God') has imagined Itself by Māyāvic Will-and-Imagination, (*Kāma-Sankalpa*, *Shreyānātī*), into Jīva, (Jīvātmā, *Khudā-i-muayyan*, 'particularised god'), and has to realise Itself as Universal Self again. All religions state this Truth, in different ways They

In min ummaṭin illā khalā fī hā nazīr.
Lā nosfarriqo baīnā ahadīm min rusuleh.
Wa mā arsalnā min qablikā mīr-rasūlin Illā nūhi
ilaihē annahū, lā ilāhā illā Anā, fa'budūn. (Q.)

(This that I am now uttering unto you,
The Holy Qurān—it is to be found
Within the ancient Seers' writings too :
For Teachers have been sent to every race.
Of human beings no community
Is left without a warner and a guide
And aught of difference we do not make—
For disagreement there is none 'twixt them—
Between these Prophets All that have been sent,
Have been so sent but One Truth to proclaim—
"I, verily the I Al(I)-One, am God.
There is no other God than I, [the Self,
The Universal all-pervading Self],
And I alone should be adored by all")

Qurān makes this further quite unmistakeable :
Wa mā arsalnā mīr-jasūlin bi-lessāni quamehī.

Wa kazālika auhanū ūlaika Qurānan A'rabi-yal
leṭrūn-za urumm-al-qorū wa man haulahū .. Wa
lau ja-a'l-naho Qurānan a'jamīyal la qālū lau la
fussilat āyātōhu (Q.).

(Teachers are sent to each race that they may
Teach it in its own tongue, so there may be
No doubt as to the meaning in its mind

Na gum shud ke rūy-ash ze ḫunyā be-tāft,
 Ke gum-gashṭāé Khwēsh rā bāz yāft
 Na koi pardā hai Us-ke dar par,
 Na Rūye Raushan naqāb mén hai,
 Tu āp apnī khudī se, ai dīl !,
 Hijāb mén hai, hijāb mén hai ! (S.)

(The ' world ' is but forgetfulness of God ;
 It is not spouse and child, silver and gold.
 Who from this world did turn his face away,
 He was not lost , indeed, instead, he found
 His long-forgotten and lost Self again.
 No bar guards His palace-gateway,
 No veil screens His Face of Light—
 Thou, my heart !, by thine own self-ness,
 Art enwrapped in darkest night.)

Lao-tse says .

" Knowing the Eternal means enlightenment , not
 knowing the Eternal causes passions to arise, and
 that is evil " (*Tao te-kung*)

Krshna says the same :

Manushyānām sahasrēshu
 kashchid yatati siddhayé,
 Yatatām cha sahasrānām
 kashchin mām vētti tattvatah.
 Shraddhā-mayo-ayam purushab,
 yo yaṭ-shraḍḍhah sa éva sah. (G.)

And the Prophet adds the positive counsel -

Kul tā'lau elā kalematin sawāim baīn-anā wa
baīna-kum. (Q.)

(Let all of us ascend towards, and meet
Together on, the common ground of those
High truths and principles which we all hold.)

Inn-allazīnā āmanu, w-allazīnū hādu, wan-nasārā,
was-sabīnā, man āmana b Illahe, wal-yaum-il-
ākhira, wa ē'mela sālehan sala-hum ajrubum īnda
Rabbihim, walā khaufun alaihim wa lāhūm yahzalūn
(Q. n 62).

(Verily, all who faithfully believe
In God, and Day of Judgment, and do good,
Be they Jews, Christians, Sabians, or Muslims,
They shall have their reward from the Lord God.
There is no fear for them, nor shall they grieve.)

(We do believe that which has been revealed
To us, and also what has been revealed
To you Your God and our God is One,
For snre; and unto Hīm we both submit.)
(Q xxix, 49),

Wa tasēmu ba hubba Ilāhī jamiyan, wa la
tāfarraqu. (Q.).

(Cling, all, to the strong rope of Love Divine
—Love for each other, and of the One God—
And do not think of separation ever.)

Etad éva viditvā tū yo yaḍ ichchhati tasya tat. (U.)

(Knowing the Truth, whate'er ye wish ye find.)

Khudā ko pāyā to kyā na pāyā,
 Sabhī milā jo milā Khudā hai !
 Zarā tū soch-ai, kabhī bhī Khāliq
 Se Us-kī khilqat huī jūdā hai ?
 Sabhī to Main hūn, sabhī to Mérā,
 Tūbī hai Khāliq, tujbī men khilqat,
 Khayāl-i-Khāyal, tūbī Khudā hai ! (Q.)

(If ye find God, then ye have found all things !
 Just think ! if the Creator thou dost find,
 Can His creation still remain behind ?
 Is the One ever separate from the Other ?
 'Indeed I am this All, All This is Mine'—
 This Word resoundeth ever from within !
 Thou art Thy-Self the Thinker, and this world
 But Thine own Thought, and God but thou
 thy-Self !)

The greatness of learning which constitutes expert medical science is very imposing and commands great respect. The simple counsel to use pure air, pure drink, pure food, does not Yet, at the best, the former can only cure disease, and, at the worst, creates new diseases. The latter will promote health and prevent disease always. But pure air, pure drink, pure food, simple though they be, are not easy to obtain under artificial conditions of life.

rendering evil for evil, or reviling for reviling, but contrariwise blessing . . Be of one mind, live in peace. (*B.*, *Corinthians*) God is no respecter of persons But in every nation he that feareth Him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him. (*B.*, *Acts*) There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female; for ye are all one in Christ Jesus." (*B.*, *Galatians*).

" He that doeth the will of God, the same is my brother and my sister and my mother " (to whatever creed or race he may belong) (*B.*)

Christianity, through the mouth of Justin the Martyr, declares :

" Whatever things have been rightly said, among all men, are the property of us Christians."¹

Sūfis say,

Faqat ḥafāwat hai nāma hī kā
Dar asl sab īka hī hain, yāro !
Jo āb-i-sāfi ke mauj mén hai
Usī kā jalvā habāb mén hai.

(But the names differ, beloved !
All in Truth are only one !
In the sea-wave and the bubble
Shines the lustre of one Sun !)

¹ Quoted by J. E. Carpenter, *The Place of Christianity in the Religions of the World*

One God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in you all." (B.)

Brahmanah kosho-asi. (*Taitt Up*)

(Thou art the sheath, the tenement, of God
Abiding-place and treasure-house of Brahm')
Mat-ṭah para-taram Na Anyat

kin-chid asti, Dhanan-jaya! (G.)
(There is No-Other-thing-than-I, in truth!)¹

The word 'Upanishat', which designates the last portion of *Veda*, wherein final knowledge is imparted to the earnest seeker only, etymologically means, "sitting very close to the teacher," who solemnly *whispers* sacred secret knowledge into the ear of ardent, earnest, intense listener; for unless listened to with reverent and rapt mind, the 'psychic miracle' of spiritual conversion will not occur, the words will fail to convey their profound significance, even if trumpeted forth from tower-tops.²

¹ For metaphysical 'significance of 'I-Not-Another', reader may look into present writer's *Science of Peace*, or *Science of the Self*, if he wishes to pursue subject further.

² Speaking in, and listening to, a *whisper*, necessitates strong concentration of intellectual attention and emotional earnestness, trumpeting cheapens the most valuable. Buddha, shortly before leaving the body of flesh, said to his beloved and most faithful disciple, Ananda, 'I have preached the truth without making distinction of esoteric'

emphasis, on this aspect of the Truth, or of Virtue, or of Duty, rather than another ; never, of Essential Ideas. Founders of Religions, *i.e.*, Re-proclaimers, in new forms, of the One Universal Religion, have laid greater stress, now on this, now on that other, aspect of the One Religion, as needed by the special times, places, circumstances, in which they lived. The Essential Religion, *Vidya*, *Irfan*, Wisdom, is eternal, universal, im-personal, all-personal, un-changing, in substance—like the facts and laws of mathematics ; the *tapas*, 'fire and fervour', 'blazing heart-energy', 'passionate compassion', 'ascetic glow and inspiration', of the 'magnetic personality' of each Re-proclaimer, is new, is his fresh 'personal' contribution, and gives a new *form* to the eternal substance.

In other words, the Founders, so-called, of new religions, are really only Re-proclaimers of the same Essential Truths, in new languages, new *forms*, amidst new settings, new conditions of life. Hence they may be said to be *Re-form-ers* only. There is never any really new Religion (in the singular) ; but always only the One Eternal Universal Religion, which is the Common Core and Essence of all particular religions. These are new religions (in the plural) in this sense, that, after each Re-proclaiming Re-former, his followers have gradually built up new rites, ceremonies, forms, around that core-teaching,

Qurān also says.

Wa fi anfusekum a-fa-lā-tubserūn. (Q.)

(I am in your own souls! Why see ye not?
In every breath of yours am I, but ye
Are blind without true eye, and see Me not)

apart "from the general people by reason of their sanctity", were devoted "to the knowledge of the existence of God and the beginning of all things", loved "allegorical interpretation" "Silence or secrecy was frequently employed by the early Rabbis in their mystical exegesis of Scripture. A typical illustration is the following, from *Midrash Rabba* (a Hebrew commentary) on Genesis, iii (B). The sage said this in a *whisper*: . The other asked, Why dost thou tell this in a *whisper*, seeing that it is clearly taught in a scriptural verse? The sage replied, Just as I have myself had it *whispered* unto me, even so have I *whispered* it unto thee'" J. Abelson, *Jewish Mysticism*, (1913), 18-23. The meek, the pure in heart, the earnestly and intensely seeking, alone can see God, not the flippant, the noisy, the disputatious. The laws of God's Nature are written on Nature's face, but it takes whole lifetimes of intense research by the ablest scientists to decipher one now, one again. Only the *receptive open* mind can *receive*. Even the Sun's light cannot come in through closed windows. Pre-occupied, pre-judiced, minds, closed by vibrant resistant active 'other'-ward, 'matter'-ward, thoughts, cannot perceive things of the Spirit.

Incidentally, it may be noted that derivation and meaning of the word 'Essenes' are in doubt; see *Enc. Brit.*, art. 'Essenes'. 'Buddhist influence' is mentioned, also 'gymno-sophists', but no western scholar seems to have thought of 's-a-n-n-y-a-s-i-s' in this connection. 'Gymno sophists' were met with, and some taken away

Disclosed in others' narration,
Giving Him meed of highest praise
In delicately worded ways)

*Iti nānā pra-sankhyānam
tatpānām kavibhīh kr̄tam ;
Sarvam nyāyyam yukti-mat-śvāt,
vidushām kīm asāmpraṭam ? (Bh)*

(In varying ways the sages have described
The same unvarying and essential truths ;
There is no real conflict 'twixt them all ;
The knowers know the way to reconcile
Many the words and ways in which the wise
Have tried to teach One Truth to all Mankind
Each way, each word, is right in its own place.
There is no conflict 'twixt them all at all
The sages see and say the Same in each)

The most beautiful face cannot see and appreciate
its own beauty until it looks into a mirror. As Sūfis
say, God had to look into the mirror of Non-Being,
A'dam, *A-sat*, *Shūnya*, in order to behold and
realise the infinitely varied beauties that lay hidden
in Him-Self. *A'yniyat-i-haqiqī*, *Ātm-ādvaīta-*
satṭā, the Truth of the Self's Oneness, Ownness,
is realised only by means of *Ghaṭiyat-i-ētabārī*,
dṛṣṭar-ābhāsa, *Dvaita-mithyātvā*, the False-
hood, the Illusion, of hypothetical, suppositional,
Otherness, which has no *real* existence

Sūfis declare that it is meant only for younger souls who are not yet ready for the inner teaching ; and that the real *kalemā* is in terms of the first person :

Wa mā arsalnā min qablikā mir
rasūlin illā nūbi ilāhē annahu—
'Inni An-Allāhu lā ilāhā illā Anā' (Q.)

(The prophets, all, that ever have been sent,
Have been so sent by Me, the Supreme Self,
For but one purpose, namely, that they teach,
That 'Men should serve the Supreme Self Al-one',
That 'Verily the I, the Self, am God ;
None Other than the Supreme Self is God'.)

Lā zidd-i-lah ; lā sharīk-i lah. (Arab, sayings)
(There is no opposite to Him ; there is no sharer
With Him ; there is, indeed, None Else than He)

* As commonly recited by the ordinary Muslim, the full *kalemā* is *Lā ilāh il-Allāh, wa Muhammadi ar-Rasūl-Allāh*. Some maulavis say that the first half is the essential half, and whoever believes in it is a Muslim ; while he who believes in the second half of it also, *viz.*, 'Muhammad is the prophet of God', he is a *momin* (*bā-imān*, 'believer in the prophet', 'one of the faithful to the prophet') Also, the second part emphasises the fact that Muhammad is only a messenger of God, and is not God himself, so that no person may make the great mistake of substituting him for God, or raising him above God, as followers of bā-hā-kā-ti-cults are so apt to do, *i.e.*, raise the immediate object of devotion above even the Almighty. See pp. 80-81 *supra*.

of the spirit of refinement and enrichment of life, is more interesting than that between friends brought up in the same culture. It has the charm of a more diverse-sided novelty, of travel in a new country, full of friendly hospitality, with scenes, foods, drinks, dresses, manners, flowers, fragrances, as beautiful, as tasteful, as delicious, as gracious, as those of one's own, yet also different. That is why God's One-ly Self, to vary the mono-tony, broke forth into infinite multi-tony.¹

Tad eva rūpam ramanīyatāyāḥ
 Kshanē kshanē yan navaṭām vidhatte
 (Shri-harsha, *Nāshadham*)

(Beauty, True Beauty, doth appear, new, fresh,
 E'er different, ever splendid, every day,)

To be able to recognise the Dearest of Friends only if He is clothed in one dress and no other, is not to know the Friend at all, but only the Dress. Beloved! I will dress you in many dresses; in the kimono of Japan, the mandarin coat of China, in the ava-sīya and uttarīya, upper and lower wrap, the golden shāta-pata, sāri, of India, in the shāls of Kashmīr, in the abā and chogha of Persia, in the burnous of Arabia, in the multiform hats, blouses, jackets, coats, petticoats, gowns, shirts, shorts, trousers, kilts, of the several countries of

¹ See f.n. (p 61 *supra*), Yār-i-mārā . . .

To Me, the Self in Whom all selves unite.
 Give up all other ways Come unto Me.
 'I' is the one sole Refuge of all beings
 The 'I' will save and salve thee from all sins,
 All sorrows, prisonments of finitude,
 By giving thee Its own Infinity.)

This is the one teaching of all prophets, *rshis*, *nabis*, *rashis*, *avatāras*, messiahs It is given to earnest and seeking souls, *ahl-i-dil*, 'the men of heart,' genuine hermits, anchorites, *bhikshus*, *faqirs*, *sannyāsis*, *duroshas*, *dīkshitas*, initiates, *miskins*, to souls that are ready to receive. It is *ilm-i-sind*, 'doctrine of the heart,' 'of the spirit,' *daqāyiq*, esoteric doctrine of the Mysteries, *Parā-Vidya*, 'Highest Knowledge,' *rahasya*, *guhya*, *gupta*, 'Secret,' *ādhyātmika artha*, 'spiritual meaning,' as it is variously named in Vedic Scriptures Distinguished from this is *ilm-i-safinā*, 'doctrine of the page', 'doctrine of the eye', 'the letter', *a-parā-vidya*, 'lower knowledge' This latter only, as yet, younger souls, *ahl-i-daul*, 'men that seek worldly wealth,' *shravakas*, 'lay disciples,' *upāsakas*, *grha-asthas*, householders, ordinary family-men-and-women, can apprehend and utilise¹

¹ In Christian writings, sometimes, 'prophets' are contrasted with 'priests', as in Islam, 'sufi auliya' with 'shara'i mullahs', and in Vaishika Dharma, *jīvānī-bhaktas* with *karma-kāndis* Jesus rebuked

"In China, when strangers meet, it is the custom for each to ask his neighbour, 'To what sublime religion do you belong?' The first is perhaps a Confucian, the second a Taoist, the third a disciple of Buddha. Each then begins a panegyric on the religion *not* his own; after which they repeat in chorus, 'Religions are many, reason is one, we are all brothers'."¹ The critic of one temperament will exclaim, "Hypocrites!"; of another, may burst out, "Old fogeys, marionettes, idiots!"; of a third, unfortunately rare perhaps to-day, would say, "Just, wise, and courteous!". Experts of different sciences, of different arts, wedded, loyal, faithful each to his own favorite, can yet admire, nay, reverence, if they are real and thoughtful experts and not bumptious quacks, the same common factor of genius, skill, unremitting application, manifesting in all.

Those who see good in others, others see good in them. Those who see evil in others, others see evil in them. Those who see both the good and the evil in others justly, others judge them justly also. 'The Science of Emotions'² tells us that if we give credit to another for a virtue, even if it be not manifest in him, his mind, his waking mind, is filled with the idea of it, and thereby we stimulate the seed of that

¹ J. Estlin Carpenter, *The Place of Christianity in the Religions of the World*, p. 60.

² See the book, bearing this title, by the present writer.

to, them in parables and allegories, because, they, seeing, see not, and hearing, they hear not, neither do they understand" (*B.*, Mat. xiii. 11, 13) (see pp. 102, 128 *et seq., supra*)

"Hear ye indeed, but understand not, and see indeed, but perceive not" (*B.*, Isaiah, vi. 9.)

Āshcharya-vat̄ pashyaṭi kashchid̄ Ēnam,
 Āshcharya-vat̄ cha Ēnam anyah shṛṇoti,
 Āshcharya-vad̄ vadati ṭaṭhā éva cha anyah,
 Shrūtvā apī Ēnam vēda na cha éva kashchit̄ (G)

(Men see, and hear, and speak of It also,
 But seeing, hearing, speaking, they see not ;
 They simply wonder, and not understand)

Shṛṇvanto apī na shṛṇvanti,
 jānanṭo apī na jānatē,
 Pashyanto apī na pashyanṭi ;
 Pashyanti jñāna-chakshushah. (U)

(Hearing, they hear not ; knowing, they know not,
 Seeing, they see not ; the enlightened ones
 Alone do see with wisdom-lumin-ed eyes.)

Truly the Self is sun-clear, ever near, nay nearest
 of all, is our very Self, yet we see It not !

As Sūfis say :

Ghāyab jo ho Khuḍā sé, ālam hai us ko hū kā,
 Anāniyat hai jis mēn, mauqā nahīn hai tū kā

of the Way, and, bursting forth with man, it teaches him the Middle Way; Buddhism is the flower and fruit of the Way, and appearing after man's mental powers matured, teaches him the final Way. Hence, to love one in preference to another, only shows man's selfish passion . The introduction of another foreign system of faith will add a new cubit to the stature of the Nation's mind, without depriving its predecessors of their authority ; indeed each new creed enlightens the old." ¹

The poet has well said .

Mockery is the fume of little hearts,
And noble manners come from noble minds

And again,

Let knowledge grow from more to more
But more of reverence in us dwell,
For fear divine philosophy
Should shoot beyond her mark and be
Procress to the lords of hell (TENNYSON)

" 'The teaching of sects,' said Lu Shun Yan, a distinguished Buddhist scholar, 'is not different. The large-hearted man regards them as embodying the same truths. The narrow-minded man observes only their differences ' . . . The wisdom in all ages,

¹ Dr Inazo Nitobe, *Japan*, 61, 370, (pub 1931, The Modern World Series), and *Enc Brit*, 14th edn., art. Japan, 930c

As *Upanishats* say :

Ātmā ēva arē shroṭavyo, mantavyo, nidiḍhyāsi-
ṭavyah.

; . . . Na-Anyah aṭo asti vijñātē. (U)

(The Self Alone is to be pondered on ;

None Else is there who knows or should be known.)

With reference to the distinction between *parok-*
sha and *a-paroksha*, indirect knowledge and
direct knowledge, Arabian philosophers have said .

Al ilmo ilmān, matbū'un wa masmū'; lā yan-fa-
al-masmū' ezā lam yakum il maṭbū'. (Phil:
maxim.)

(Knowledge is of two kinds, that which is heard,
And that which is felt direct in the heart ;
The heard yields not full fruit until it comes
Home to the soul in own experience)

Har ke rā ḍar jān Khudā bi-nihād mahak

Har yaqīn rā bāz dānad ū ze shak (S)

(A touchstone God hath placed in every heart ;
It separates, with surety, False from True)

Al ilmu ilmān, ilm-ul-abdān wa ilm-ul-adyān (H.)

(Science is dual—science physical,

And science spiritual, where alone

Are firm faiths, based on knowledge, to be found.)

" The Great God has conferred a normal sense
even on the lowliest people." (C , *Shu-kung*)

Nivāraṇ-Ārṭham arṭinam arṭum yogyo bhavet̄ tu yah,
Aryat̄e saṭaṭam ch-Ārṭaih, sa Ārya iti kaṭhyat̄e.

(Through all forms whatsoever runs One Life,
Immortal, making invisible
All those that seem divided endlessly—
The higher, *sāttvik'*, wisdom seeth thus
But that which takes the separate-seeming many
As many only, separate for ever—
That sight is of the lower *rājas'* mind)

(He who is worthy to go to, for help,
For persons in distress, and unto whom
Such ever do resort—true Ārya, he)

That all the creeds and practices, all the parts, of
The Essential any religion, are not equally impor-
tant, not essential, is patent. All
Non-Essential religions themselves make distinc-
tions between the obligatory and the optional,
mohkamāt and *muslīkūlāt*, *nītya* and *kāmya*,
āvashyaka and *aichchikā*. That duty
varies with time, place, and circumstance, is also
obvious, and is plainly stated too in all religions.

Dēsha-kāla-nimittānām
bbēdair-dharmo vibhidyat̄e ;
Anyah dharmah sama-sthasya,
vishama-sthasya cha aparab.
Na hi eva aikāntiko dharmah ;
dharmo hi āvasthikah smṛtah.

Sākshinam baṭa kalyānam Ātmānam ava-man-yasé! . . .

Na hr̥t-shayam vētsi Munim Purānam! . . .

Hṛdi sthitah karma-sākshī Kshetra-jñō na asya tushyati,

Tam Yamah pāpa-karmānam nir-bhartṣayati pūrasham.

(*Mbh*, Ādi-parva, ch. 98.)

(Why know'st thou not the witness in thy heart?

Why slightest thou that Blessed Guide Within?

He who ignores and does not satisfy,

But disobeys, the One, auspicious, pure,

Perpetual 'Inner Witness', the 'Own-Self',

The 'Ancient Sage', all-knowing, who abides

In every heart, recording every act,

Him Yama doth award dire punishment.)

Istafṭeh qalab-ak. (H)

(Question your heart)

Na Yamam Yama iti-śhuh, Ātmā vai Yama uchyaté.

Ātmā sam-yamito yéna, Yamah ṣasya karoti kim.

Yamo Vaivasvato dévo, yah ṣava-ésha hṛdi sthitah

Téna chéd a-vivādas-té, mā Gangām, mā Kurūn

gamah. (*Mbh.*, M, viii. 92).

(Yama, the outer god, is but a name;

The One Self, Inner 'Ruler', is true Yama;

He who hath satisfied that Inner God,

(As men change character and ways of life,
 So change the laws their elders make for them ;
 Both vary, side by side, from age to age.
 One law is for the Golden Age of Truth,
 And ready ' doing ' of loved Elders' words
 Another for the Age of infant Sin ,
 Yet other for the Age of equal Strife
 Twixt well-grown Vice and Virtue ; and a fourth
 Is needed for the Time when Discord reigns).

" To everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven ; . . . a time to be born and a time to die ; to plant, and to pluck up ; to kill, and to heal , to break down, and to build up ; to weep, and to laugh ; to keep silence, and to speak ; to love, and to hate ; a time of war, and a time of peace " (B., Eccles)

Inna-kum sī zamānīn man ṭaraka mīn-kum,
 a'shra mā omera behī halaka ; summū yātī
 zamānūn mīn-hum be-a'shra
 mā omera behī naya. (H., Tirmizi.)

(Ye now are in an age in which if ye
 Shirk even one-tenth of what is ordained
 Ye will be ruined After this will come
 A time when he who will do e'en one tenth
 Of what is ordered now will be redeemed.)

The greatest of all Sūfī writers, Maulānā Jalāl-ud-din Rūmī, has used strong language in distinguishing

which has been described in 'words' by, has 'come' from, others, in Arabic-Persian, *matbū'* (*taba'*, inner nature) and *masmū'* (*sama'*, hearing), also, with a slight difference, *mā'qulāt* (*aql*, intelligence, intuition), and *manqūlāt* (*naql*, copy, passing on from one to another), in European, direct and traditional, first-hand and second-hand

L'Ilāhē al-annāsī hujjataīn, zāhiratun wa bātinah,
 hujjat-uz-zāhira he-al-ambiyā w-ar-rasūl, hujjat-
 ul-bātina he-al-u'qūl (Arab. philosophical
 maxims)

(Two proofs are there of Deity, for men ;
 The outer is the prophets' witnessing,
 The inner is our own rational mind.)

In the case of one's own intelligence and *pratyakṣha* or direct observation, again, two kinds (or rather degrees) are recognised by all : Christians speak of intellection and instinctive perception or intuition, *Vaidikas*, of *sādhāraṇa-jñāna*, (ordinary knowledge) and *yoga-jā-jñāna*, *samādhija-jñāna*, *pratiṣṭhabha-jñāna* (knowledge born of *yoga*, or *samādhi*, or *pratiṣṭhabha*), Musalmāns, of *ilm-i-ladunī* or *ilm-i-wahbi* or *-waydānī* or *-ihāmī* or *-kashfā* or *-ishrāqī* or *-dīnī* or *-makāshifā*, i.e., sudden, inspirational, illuminational, (risen like the Sun, by faith, by clear vision), and *ilm-i-kasābī* or

(They who are always praising Vēdic rites
And ceremonies, saying there's naught else
Worth thinking of, are very foolish men.)

Even the benevolent Masters have, now and then,
to use strong, even harsh, language, when it is necessary
to shake very heavy inertia !

From another standpoint, for the purpose of gradually leading on the child-soul from the in-essential to the Essential, from the symbol to the Meaning, we are advised to " Give milk to babes and meat to the strong ", (B) Even Moses and Muhammad are scarcely able at first to look on the *Nūr-i-Qāhir*, ' the blinding effulgence of the Face of God wholly unveiled.' Even Arjuna trembles when his eyes are first opened for briefest instant to ' That Glory greater than a thousand suns ', ' Light of lights ', *jyoṭiśhām jyoṭih*, (*Gītā* and *Up.*), the Glory of the Universal Self ; on beholding which, all small individual self-hood and self-ishness shrivel into nothingness. Therefore,

Apsu dévā manushyānām,
divī dēvāh manishinām,
Bālānām kāshtha-lashteshu,
budhasya Ātmānā Dēvatā (Agni Purāna.)

(Child-souls may find their gods in wood and stone ;
More grown-up souls in sacred lakes and streams ;

"I am (*i.e.*, the Self *is*) God and there is None-Else "¹

¹ This is the Hebrew form of the Arabic *Kalemā-s*, '*Lā-ilāh il Allāh*' and '*Inni an Allāhu, lā ilāha illā Anā*', 'There is no god other than Allāh', and 'Verily I am (*i.e.*, *is*) God, there is no God but (the) I', and also the Zoroastrian logion, '*Mazadāo sakharē marrishtō*', '*Mazadāo* alone is to be always ever contemplated and adored'. For an attempt at a philosophical exposition of the full significance of this *Mahā-vākyā*, '*Aham-Etat-Na*', see present writer's *Science of Peace* and *Praṇava-Vāda*, or *Science of the Sacred Word*, or the briefer *Science of the Self*.

Gangā Prasāda, *The Fountain-Head of Religion*, p. 12, says that Zoroastrianism has a formula, "N-est Ezed magar Yazdān", which means exactly the same as "*Lā ilāh il-Allāh*".

A superphysical supplement to the metaphysical fact, that the Supreme Judge is within us as our Inmost Universal Self, is to be found in an old *Purāna* verse, quoted in a commentary (unpublished) entitled *Paramārtha-Prapṭa* on *Giṭā* by Daivajña Suri, which was mentioned to me by a Pandit, now no more

Yamasya dūṭāsh cba, gaṇāś Shivasya,
Nārāyanasya api tathā eva pārshbadāh,
Sūryasya rashmīn avalambya sarvē,
Lokān niyachchhan (tah) vicharant; sarvadā
(The myrmidous of Yama, Shiva's guards,
And messengers of Viṣṇu, ever flash
Along the solar rays, to-fro, beholding,
Adjusting, regulating, all that happens,
Within the Realm of Our Lord the Sun)

A manṭra of Rg Vēda also says

Ā kṛṣṇēṇa rajasā varṭamānab,
Niyojayan Amṛtam mart(i)yam cha,

The Nature
of Religion

But in order to make our investigation, very brief and merely suggestive as it must be here, somewhat systematic, we should try first to ascertain, even though only rapidly, the nature of what is called Religion.

The word 'religion', which is in use in the Christian world, is derived from Latin words (*re* and *legerc* or *ligare*) which mean 'to bind back'. Therefore it means that which binds human beings to each other in the bonds of love and sympathy and mutual rights and duties; binds them all also to God; endeavours to lead them back to that World-Soul, from Whom their lower nature makes them stray away again and yet again, in too eager following of the objects of the senses; and binds to, and keeps their minds fixed on, that Supreme Principle of Unity, amidst the press of all their daily work, in order to enable them to do that work with proper balance, righteously. The power to bind together the hearts of men to one another, by the common bond of God, the All-pervading Self, is the power to give birth to and to nourish and maintain, a in real evolution, through which the person undergoing initiation was passed. The intention seems to have been to prepare for real life's trials and tests. Sometimes, this preparation was so severe that nothing in real life could be more so, as, today, in the case of the physical 'endurance' and other trainings, tests, and rehearsals of athletes, racers, aviators, swimmers, film-thrillers, and soldiers

Védānta, goes almost without saying, for those who do not revel in discovering minute differences. In one of his *udānas* (*shuttahiyāt*, as Sūfis call them, or, in Védic literature, *yog-ārūdh-oktis*), ecstatic utterances of ever-flowing joy joy of realization of identity with the Supreme Self of all—Buddha, arising from *samādhi*-trance, uses words which are the words of *Upanishats*, but in their Pāli form

✓ Védānta-gū, vushita-brahma-charīo, dharména sa
Brāhmaṇo Brahma-vādam vadéyya (*Udāna*)

(He who successfully fulfils his vow
Of continence in body and in mind,
And has achieved the final knowledge, he
Acquires the right, high Brahma to declare
To others who would walk the Path, he may
Give to himself the name of Brāhmaṇa)

On another occasion, he exclaims 'I, O priests!, am Brahma, Great Brahma, the Supreme Being, Unsurpassed, Perceiver of all things, Controller, Lord of All, Maker, Fashioner, Chief, Victor, Ruler, Father, of all beings who have been and are to be.' (*Kevatta Sutta of Dīghanikāya, Buddhism in Translations*, p 311, BB, p 115)

✓ In a similar mood of exaltation, Ashtāvakra, long before Buddha, cried out Aho Aham! namo Mahyam!, and, long afterward, Bāyazid Bustāmī re-echoed him, *Subhāmī ma āzama shāmī*, 'How

(The Rod, restless, of Compulsion, held
 By Royalty, which meteth good for good
 And ill for ill, and ordereth all things—
 That Rod is Dharm' embodied. Thus, the
 wise)

And here we see the etymological definition, given
 in *Mahābhārata*,

Dhāranād Dharmā iti āluh,
 Dharmo dhārayati prajāḥ. (Shānti-parva.)

(That which binds fast all beings, each to each,
 With bonds of rights-and-duties ; binding these
 Also together, in unfailing law
 Of Action and Reaction, whence arise
 Reward for good and Punishment for ill,
 And thus preserves mankind—Dharma is That.)

The Unity of the Universal Self is the Ultimate Dharma, characteristic property, quality, attribute, which is the obvious cause and source of *all* these aspects and meanings of Dharma.

The 'holding together' of human beings in a 'society' is not possible without perpetual 'give-and-take', 'right-and-duty', incessant little or great acts of *self-sacrifice*, *yajñā*, *qurbānī*. The 'self-affirmation' of any one individual is not possible without corresponding 'self-denial' on the part of some other or others. And *vice versa*. More; each individual, to secure selfish self-expression, must

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to be almost indistinguishable when translated into a third language. Thus -

(O pilgrims for the Shrine! Where go ye, where?
Come back! come back! The Beloved is here!
His presence all your neighbourhood doth bless!
Why will ye wander in the wilderness!
Ye who are seeking God! Yourselves are He!
Ye need not search! He is Ye, verily!
Why will ye seek for what was never lost?
There is Naught-Else-than-Ye! Be not doubt-
tost!)

(The wise see in their heart the face of God,
And not in images of stone and clod!
Who in themselves, alas!, can see Him not,
They seek to find Him in some outer spot.)

enumerates twenty of his names. The first is *Ahmi* (Skt., *Asmī*), 'I am.' The last is *Ahmi Yad Ahmi* (Skt., *Asmī Yaḍ Asmī*, Yo-smī so-smī, Yo-ham So-ham, 'I am what I am'). Both of these phrases are also names of Jehovah in the Bible. And God said unto Moses, 'I am that I am', *Ehyeh asher yehyeh*. And he said, 'Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel *I am* hath sent me unto you'" (*Gangā Prasād, The Fountain-Head of Religion*, p 47.) "In the Egyptian Book of the Dead, 'I am he who I am' is applied to a god", (M. Yearsley, *The Story of the Bible*, p 79). Jesus says "Before Abraham was, *I am*", (*B.*), which can mean only that 'I am', the Self, the Principle of Consciousness, was 'before Abraham' and everything Else..

self-sacrifice, though internally motived by all-wise Philanthropic Love, has yet to be externally regulated by all-loving Wisdom, through Laws which lay down rights-and-duties, which bind rights with duties, and all human beings with the bonds of both. The *feeling*, and the implicit and explicit *recognition*, of the omni-presence of the larger Self; and of one's particular smaller self being a part of, and subordinate to, It, as a cell or a tissue in an organism, this feeling, this recognition, may be said to be the quintessence of 'religion' or 'religiousness'. Conscious *conviction* that every 'finite' is created, ideated, maintained, 'held together', and periodically manifested and in-drawn, by the Infinite; this, and corresponding *philanthropic desire* and *action*, may be said to make up the whole of Religion¹.

The word *Islām* has a profound and noble meaning which is, indeed, by itself, the very essence of religion. Derived from *salīm*, peace, shānti, it means 'peaceful acceptance' of God, calm resignation, submission, surrender, *prā-ni-dhāna*, *prapatti*, of the small self to the Great Self, letting out of egoism and letting in of Universalism; *namas-kāra*, *na mama kintu tava iḥā*,

¹ The idea is more fully expounded in other works of this writer, especially *The Science of Religion* or *Saṅkāra Vaiḍika Dharma*

150 TO DOUBT THEE IS TO DOUBT MY-SELF! [CH. IX]

Bhūtāni Bhagavatī Ātmāni,
asau Bhāgavat-oṣṭamah. (Bh.)

(Whoso 'in sees' Divinity everywhere,
Godhead in every living thing, and all
In God--he only is true devotee
And servant of the Omni-present Lord.)

A'īn Hastī khud ṫu ī, pas az to chūn munkūr
shawam?

Hujjaté hastī-é-Tu-st īn hujjat-o-inkār-i-Mā!
(Niyāz)

(When Thou, the whole of Being art Thy-Self,
How can I be so dull as to deny Thee?
To doubt thee is to doubt my-Self, indeed !)

The *Upanishat*-expression, Ekam eva A-dvitiyam, "One—not a Second," is to be found in *Bible* (*Ecclesiastes*) also and is echoed in *Tasawwuf* exactly :

Har giyāhē ke bar zamin 1oyad,
Wahdabū lā shark-i-lah goyad (S)

(Each single blade of grass that sprouts from earth,
Proclaims His word that 'I Al-One am He,
There is No-Other anywhere than I,'
That he, you, I are all One I, One Life)

The words of Zoroastrian Scriptures are -

Na échīm tém anyém Yūshmaṇ vaédā
(Z Gāthā, xxxiv 7)

such laws can be made by only *good-and-wise* persons. Legislation and administration by such only can establish 'the kingdom of heaven on earth'.

The essence of Christianity is, thus, same as that of Dharma. 'Christos' means 'anointed,' 'bathed in Divine Wisdom', whence only replacement of the small self by the Great Self.

So 'Vaidika-Dharma' etymologically means the Religion of *Knowledge*; 'Sanātana-Dharma' means the Religion, the Way, of the *Eternal Self*; 'Mānava-Dharma', Religion of *Humanity* and *Humanism*; 'Buddha-Dharma', Religion of *Buddhi, Wisdom*, 'Ārya-Dharma', Religion of the Good, the Noble-minded. The other Islāmic name for religion is *Mazhab*, which means the 'Way', i.e., the Way of Righteousness, the Path to God and Happiness.

'Dharma' is also a *triple* Way, sub-divided into three intertwining Mārgas or Paths, of Knowledge, of Devotion, of Works. Buddhism, as we have already seen, also describes itself as the Middle Path, and, again, in greater detail, as the Ashtāṅga Ārya Mārga, 'the Noble Eightfold Path'.¹ But always the One and only Path is the Path of Non-Egoism, of Unselfishness,

¹ For fuller exposition, see portion numbered 20, on 'Social Organisation', of ch iv *infra*, and Appendix

'The eight are "Samyak drshti, . . sankalpa .. vāk, .. karmānta, . . Bhīva, .. vyāyāma, . . smṛti, . . samādhi, right view, right resolve, . . speech, . .

(In all the months, years, ages, eons, cycles,
 Past and to come, countless, infinitely,
 What doth not ever rise nor ever set
 Is this Self-lit Self-Consciousness al-one.
 Break of this Consciousness was never seen.
 If it was ever seen, then he who saw,
 The witness, he him-Self remains behind
 Embodied as that Self-same Consciousness.)¹

¹ "I find my boy still hardly able to grasp the fact that there was a time when he *did not exist*, if I talk to him about the building of the Pyramids or some such topic, he always wants to know what he was doing then, and is merely puzzled when he is told that he *did not exist*" This is what Mr. Bertrand Russell writes of his son and himself in his book, *On Education*, p. 171. He is reputed to be a brilliant philosopher and also a great mathematician, yet he told the dear boy that he (the boy) "did not exist" a few years earlier¹ The child's soul, his Self, knew better, as did Wordsworth, in his *Ode to Immortality*. Consciousness, Self-consciousness, the Self simply *cannot* be conscious of a time when it, the Self, it-Self, Consciousness, is not, was not, will not be. It is a contradiction in terms. Immortality is indelibly stamped on the face of Consciousness, the face of God. When 'I' say that the solar system was born so many hundreds or thousands of millions of years ago and will last so many more—the whole system with all its thousands of millions of years of life-time and all its thousands of millions of millions of miles of body-space is in 'My' Consciousness, 'now' and 'here', otherwise, my statement were wholly meaningless. As Sūfī Sarmad well says

Mullā goyad ki bar falak shud Ahmad,
 Sarmad goyad ki falak ba Ahmad dar shud.

The name of the religion given by Lao-tse to China is *Tāo*, which, again, means the 'Way'.¹

is Divine Monarch of the Central Heaven, Tākā mi-onosubi no Kāmī is Exalted Imperial Divine Offspring of Heaven and Earth, Kāmī mi nosubī no Kāmī is Offspring of the gods, Isn no gāi no Kāmī is male dark muscular being, Eku gāi no Kāmī is female fair weaker more delicate being

"The idea of the middle path, that lies between the opposites, is found in China, in the form of Tao . The meanings of Tao are (1) Way, (2) Method, (3) Principle, (4) Nature force or Life-force, (5) the Regulated processes of Nature, (6) the Idea of the World, (7) the Primal Cause of all phenomena, (8) the Right, (9) the Good, (10) the Eternal Moral Law. Some even translate Tao as God . Lao-tse, (born 604 B C), in *Tao-te-king*, says Tao seems to have existed before God . It is indefinable, perfected, . . formless, al-one, un-changing, inexhaustible beyond reasoning, unseizable, nameless, existing and non-existing also . Dwelling without desire, one perceiveth its essence, clinging to desire, one seeth only its outer form . . The kinship with the basic Brahmanic ideas is unmistakable—which does not necessarily imply direct contact . The primordial image underlying both the Rta-Brahma-Ātma and Tao conceptions is as universal as man, appearing in every age, among all peoples, whether as Energy-concept, or Soul-force, or however else it may be designated . The knowledge of Tao has therefore the same redeeming "freedom'-giving, 'salvation'-bringing, 'moksha'-bestowing] "and uplifting effect as the 'knowing' of Brahman . The complete one" [the perfected 'son of God', kāmīl, mukta] "is beyond intimacy or estrangement, profit or injury, honor or disgrace Being one with Tao resembles the spiritual condition of a child," [compare verses of *Gītā*, to same effect]: C G. Jung, *Psychological Types*, 264-266. What else can

This Self is Self-luminous because, clearly, nothing else can illumine It. It illuminates all else Eyes see sights and ears hear sounds , but who sees the eyes and who hears the ears ? They obviously do not see and hear themselves I am conscious of the eyes and of their objects, of the ears and their objects Indeed I see and hear, rather than eyes see and ears hear They are only the instruments I use. The ' I ' is *Haq ul Yaqin*, the Truth in and of Truths, the Certainty in and of all certainties

Lā tudrikul-absār, wa Huā'yudrikul-absār (Q.)

(Eyes do not see Him, but He sees the eyes)

Shrotrasya shrotram, manaso mano yad,
Vācho ha vācham, Sa u prānasya prānah,
chakshushah chakshuh. (U)

(Hearer of ear and Speaker of all speech,
Seer of eye and Mentor of the mind,
The Self is verily the Life of life)

Kuntu sama'-ul-lazī yasma'n bīhī,
Wa bisārat-ul-lazī yubsīru bīhī (Q)

(I do become the ear by which he hears ,
And I become the eye by which he sees)

Yo vēd-édam shrnavān-ītī sa Ātmā shravanāya
shrōtram ; darshanāya chakshuh , gandhāya ghrā-
nam . (U)

annihilating fear of annihilation, can abolish need for religion. When man has found God, his own Eternal and Infinite Self, and has thrown away his smaller self, he has himself become the Truth, the Life, the Way, and no longer needs any other way to God.

Whichever track we try, we always come round to the one and only way—of merging the small self in the Eternal Self, the dew-drop in the Sea.

We may distinguish three main parts or aspects

The Three Aspects of Religion

in all the great religions. In Vaidika

Dharma, they are expressly mentioned Jñāna-Mārga, Bhakti-mārga, Karma-mārga. General-

ly corresponding to these are, *Haqīqat* or *Aqāyad*, *Tarīqat* or *Ibādāt*, and *Shariyyāt* or *Mā'milāt*, of Islām. *Gnosis*, *Pietas*, and *Energeia*, (a) Way of Knowledge, Illumination, Gnosticism, (b) Way of Devotion, Pietism, Mysticism, (c) Way of Rites and Ceremonies and Works of self-denying' Charity, Activism, Energism, Practicalism—these seem to be similarly distinguished in Christian theology, and to have the same significance. *Via contemplativa*, *vía unitiva*, *vía purgativa*, are Latin names for the same, in the writings of the Fathers of the Christian Church. In the Buddhist Eightfold Path, (see p. 109 *supra*), the three most important, under which the other five may be classified, are Right Knowledge,

Yo asya Adhyakshah paramé Vyoman,
So, anga !, vēda, yadī vā na vēda ! (*Rg-Vēda*).

(This vast-spread emanation, measureless,
Filling the infinite expanse of Heaven,
From Whom has it come into being ? Who
Maintains it going ? Or doth none maintain it ?
Who is its Ruler ? Doth it rule it-Self ?
He only knows ! Perchance He too knows not
Quite wakefully, and only dreams it all !)
Cognoscendo ignorari, ignorando cognosci.

(ST AUGUSTINE)

Ai bar-tar az khayāl o qayās o gumān o wābm
W-az har che gufta-ém o shanid-ém o khwāndā-
ém (S)

(Thou art beyond all thought, conception, guess,
Imagination, yea, and far beyond
All we have spoken, heard, or read in books,
These deal with Objects—Thou Subject of all !)

Āshrayatva-vishayatva-bhāgīnī
Nir-vibhāga-Chitir-éva kevalā
(*Sankshepa-Shāriraka*).

(This marvellous Unique Self-consciousness
All-one is Subject-Object both at once
It knows It-Self and knows all-Else also.)

The Universal I, the Supreme Self, God, is indeed Unique, All(1)-one One-without-a-second, A-dvitiya, *Lā-sām* There is No-Thing Else like It,

(Three Yoga-ways have I declared to men.—
Of Knowledge, of Devotion, of right Deed).

Kāma-mayah éva ayam purushah; sa yaṭhā-kāmo bhavaṭi, yaṭ-kraṭur bhavaṭi; yaṭ-kratur bhavaṭi yaṭ karma kuruté; yat karma kuruté, tad abhi-sampaḍ-yaté... Taṭ éva sakṭah saha karmnā éṭi lingam, mano yatra nishakṭam asya; (*Br. Up.*, 4. 4. 4-5-6.)

Aṭha khalu kraṭu-mayah purushah; yaṭhā kraṭur asmin loké purusho bhavaṭi, taṭhā itah preṭya bhavaṭi; (*Chh. Up.*, 3. 14. 1.).

(Desire is core of individual man;
As is the strongest wish, such is the will;
As is the real will, such is the act;
As is the act, such doth becomes the man.
As is the craving which absorbs the mind
At the last moment, such the shape also
Which is assumed by the subtle form,
In which the soul goes on to other worlds)
Taṭhā asya Shaktir vividhā éva shrūyaté
Svābhāvīkī jñāna-bala-kriyā cha. (*Shvēta. Up.*)

(Threefold His Energy is said to be—
Power of knowledge, of desire, of deed.)
As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he.

(*B. , Prov., 23-27.*)

Shradḍhā-mayo ayam purushah

Yo yach-chhraḍḍhah sa éva sah. (*Gītā.*)

(Man is made up of faith ; faith is the man.)

Tasmai sam-un-naddha-viruddha-shaktayé
Namah parasmai Purushāya Vēdhasé (Bhāg)

(To Hīm who wieldeth, in th' eternal Play
Of the World-Drama, mighty, turbulent,
Opposed, and ever-battling wondrous powers
—We offer salutation to that Self.)

Aham Ātmā, Gudā-kēsha !
sarva-bhūt-āshaya-sthitah,
Aham Ādīsh-cha, Madhyam cha,
bhūtānām Anta éva cha. (G)

(I am the Self abiding in all hearts,
I am Beginning, Middle, End of all)

Hu-wal-Awwal, Hu-wal-Ākhīr, Hu-waz-Zāhir, Hu-
wal-Bātin, wa Hu-wā be kulle shayūn Alīm (Q.)

(He is the First, He is the Last also,
He is the Outer, He the Inner too,
The Manifest and yet Unmanifest,
The Lord, Ordainer, Knower of all things)

" I am (is) the first and the last . . I am the
alpha and the omega." (B.)

" I am (is) the Light which lighteth every man.
. . without Me " (the Supreme Self in all) " thou
canst do nothing " (B)

" The Lord, before and beyond whom there is No
Other." (Z., Yasna, xxviii. 3.)

psychological science, the reason why all religions have this threefold nature. The human mind has three aspects. Human life is one incessant round of conscious or sub-conscious knowings, wishings, and doings. Only if we know rightly, wish rightly, and act rightly, can we secure happiness here and hereafter, for ourselves and our fellow-creatures. Religions teach us what are the most important items under each of these three heads, and how we may secure them!'

A triad almost more frequently met with, is that of right thoughts-words-deeds; mano-vāk-karma; *khayāl-qaul-fa'l*; *humata-hukhta-huvarshta*, (Z.)². Here, 'words' stands for 'desire'.

"In his pronouncement, initiating the New Life Movement in China, (Feb 1934), Marshal Chiang Kai Shek referred to the four traditional foundations of Good Character Li, I, Lyang, and Chih. These seem to be equivalents of (1) Righteousness in Action, (2) Non-separatism or Unionism in Desire, (3) Free Knowledge, or clear, plain, discriminate right course; (4) Self-consciousness, conscience which makes one feel ashamed to go against I and Lyang. In other words, briefly, (1) karma, (2) bhakti, (3 and 4) jñāna."

(Prof. Tan Yun Shan, *Modern Chinese History*, p 97).

² *Humata* is, in Skt., su-maṭam, right-thought, well-thought, *hu-khṭa* is su-ulṭam, right-words, well-spoken, *hu-varṣhtā* is su-vṛṣham, su-varhitam, su-vṛḍham, su-vṛṭam, su-varṣitam, su-kṛtam, well-done, well-worked, well-raised, right-deeds).

Na san, n-āsan, na sad-asan,
 Na ch-āpy-anubhay-ātmakam,
 Chatush-koti-vi-nir-muktam
 Tattvam Mādhyamikāḥ viduh.

(Bu , NĀGĀRJUNA, Mādhyamika-Kārikā.)

(It is not non-existent, nor existent,
 It is not thus, nor is it otherwise,
 It takes not birth, nor grows, decays, or dies,
 It has no stain to purify away,
 It is the ever Pure—such is the mark
 Of that which hath no mark, the One Supreme.
 It cannot be suppressed, nor yet expressed,
 It cannot die, nor yet be brought to birth,
 Nor is it slayable, nor everlasting,
 It means not any one thing, nor yet many,
 It cometh not, nor ever doth It go.
 Not being, nor non-being, nor yet both,
 Nor free from both ! This wondrous Mystery,
 Void of these four conditions, is the Truth
 Which those that tread the Middle Path declare)

Syād asti, syān n-āsti, syād asti cha n-āsti cha,
 syād a-vaktavyah, syād asti ch-āvaktavyah, syān n-
 asti ch-āvaktavyah, syād-asti cha n-āsti ch-āvaka-
 vyah (J , Syād-Vāda)

(Perhaps It is , or may be It is-not ;
 Or it may be that It both is and not ,
 Or It is only Indescribable ;

Thus does the quality of every civilization depend upon its working out of the threefold principles of its religion.¹

Educationists in particular should always bear in mind the fact that the pupil is a unity of intellect, emotion, and physical body, and that that education only is good which informs the intellect with true and useful, cultural as well as vocational, knowledge, disciplines the emotions and the will into a

¹ Various religions and sects, philosophies and schools, civilisations and epochs, emphasise various aspects, facets, parts of the same One Universal Way and Life and Truth, though all necessarily expound, implicitly, if not explicitly, all the aspects, for these are all inseparable. Thus, one emphasises knowledge more, another, devotion, another, action, one stresses (comparatively changeless) Rest, another changeful effort, Evolution, progress, another, cyclicity and periodical balancing, one, the Shiva-aspect of the Absolute, Peace, repose, abstention from restlessness, another, the Shakti-aspect of the same, Power, Libido, Elan Vital, another the inclusion of the latter within the former, one more prominently embodies and expresses Law and Order, another, Beauty, Music, Fine Arts generally, another Trade, Enterprise, Colonial activity, another, Martial ardour. Which religion or civilisation expresses and embodies which aspect most—opinion as to this will, again, at least partly depend upon the personality of each observer. Thus, one person may think Buddhism mainly philosophical, rationalist, Intellectual, another as compassionate, benevolent, philanthropic, hence Emotional; another as renunciant of comforts for the bhikshus themselves, but munisirant towards the general public, hence Actional.

Tad-ējati, Tan-na éjati,
 Tad-dūrē, Tad u antiké,
 Tad antar-asya sarvasya,
 Tad u sarvasya-āsyā bāhyatah. (*Isha-U*)

(It moveth and It moveth not at all,
 It is the farthest of the far, It is
 The nearest of the near, It is within,
 And yet it is without all that we know.)
 "Alone It standeth and It changeth not,
 Around it moveth, and It suffereth not,
 The Mother of the World It may be called."

(T., *Tao-teh-king*, THR , 6.)

"I am the Lord, I change not" (B., Malachi.)
 An-Eka mānhī Eka rājai, Eka mānhī an-Eka-no,
 Ek-Ānéka kī nahīn sankhyā!, namo Siddha
 Niranjano! (J., BHŪ-DHARA)

(That which is One in many, Many in One,
 Yet Neither One nor Many—I bow to That !)
 "The Tao hath no beginning and no end" (BB , 88)

A! ke ḫar héch jā na dārī jā!
 Bu-l-a'jab māndah am ke har-jā-i!
 Ba-jahān dar hamésha paidā-i!
 Lék dar chashm-i-man na mī āyī!
 (S., WESĀLĪ, Mā-muqīmān.)

(O Thou that hast no place in any place,
 And yet, O wonder !, art in every place !

CHAPTER II

WAY OF KNOWLEDGE, I.E. THE INTELLECTUAL CONSTITUENT OF RELIGION .

Haqāyaq, basic 'truths', *Daqāyaq*, 'deep' things,
Mārifāt, 'knowledges,' *A'qāyad*,
Way of Knowledge 'beliefs', which form the object of
the Jñāna-kāṇḍa of Religion,
are but few Nay, there is but one ultimate Truth
Errors are numberless. There is but one straight
line, the shortest distance between two points
Curved lines between them are beyond count. All
that is true and right in knowledge, in feeling, in
conduct, is but corollary of the one Truth. The
whole of geometry is pre-contained in the definitions,
postulates, axioms. A Samskr̥t verse says that
'the whole of arithmetic is contained in the Rule
of Three.'

Sarvam trai-rāshikam pāti.

And the whole of religion, philosophy, science, is
contained in the 'Rule of Three' also, the Trinity-in-Unity,
God-Nature-Man. God includes Nature
and Man

Chakra, chihna, aru varna jāṭi,
 aru pāṭi nahina jiḥu,
 Rūpa, ranga, aru rékha, bhékha,
 koi kahi na sakata jiḥu,
 A-chala-mūraṭi, Anu-bhava-prakāṣa,
 Amit-oja kahijai !
 Koti Indra-Indrāṇ Shāha-
 shāhāna ganijai !
 Trī-bhuvana Mahī-pa, sura nara asura,
 N-éti, N-éti vana trna kahat,
 Tava sarva nāma kathai kavana,
 karma nāma varnata sumat !
 Eka mūratī an-éka darshana,
 kīna rūpa an-éka,
 Khéla khéla a-khéla khélana
 anta ko phira Eka !

(S., GURU GOVINDA SINHA, Jāp)

(O Thou ! that hath no mark, sign, caste, or creed,
 No clan, tribe, form, or color, or outline,
 No special shape or dress , Thou Movelessness !
 Self-luminosity eternally !,
 Measureless, fathomless, All-Potency !
 Lord of the three worlds—Waking, Dreaming,
 Sleep—

Angels, men, titans, forests grasses, all,
 Only 'Not-This', 'Not-This', of Thee declare !
 Who may recite Thy Names and Works in full,

also say that it is very simple, yet very difficult, too, to realize—because we are too strongly interested yet in *selfish* ‘errors’, and do not *wish* to turn to the *un-selfish* Truth of the All-One-Self

Jainism knows the descent and re-ascent of the Spirit as *samiti* and *gupti*, *sanchara* and *prati-sanchara*, *ava-sarpini* and *ut-sarpini*; Christianity, as Fall and Redemption, Sin and Salvation, Death and Resurrection; Sufism, as *safar-ul-Haq* and *safar-ul-a'bd*, *qaus-i-nusul* and *qaus-i-urij*, *fisal* and *wisal*, Vedic systems of philosophy, as *bandha* and *moksha*, *iha* and *uparama*, *a-vidyā* and *vidyā*, *vyut-tħāna* and *nir-rodha*, *abhy-udaya* and *nir-shreyasa*, *sarga* and *apavarga*, *klesha* and *sva-rūpa-pratishthā*, *pra-sava* and *prati-pra-sava*, *lilā* and *kaivalya*, Buddhism uses many terms in common with Vedism; western ethics and psychology might call the pair, ‘pursuit and renunciation’ or ‘retirement’; and science, ‘involution and evolution (of Spirit into and out of Matter)’, or ‘integration and disintegration or dissolution (of material form)’. A Chinese proverb says: “Heaven’s way always goes round”; (*Lin Yutang, My Country and my People*, p. 189).

As Sufis say .

Chist dūnyā ? Az Khudā ghāfil shudān ,
Nai ke mā'sh o nuqrāh o farzand o zan.

be conscious of consciousness originating or ceasing; which is a self-contradiction. 'Another's consciousness,' 'another-consciousness', cannot be conscious of 'My consciousness,' of 'I-consciousness', beginning or ending, that again is a self-contradiction. The fact is that the Principle of Consciousness, the Self, is One, Universal, all-pervading, a Plenum without parts, without break. The appearance of separate individual selves, of separateness, *tazraqā*, *bhēda*, is an illusion, is the great *Jā'l* of the *Jā'l* *Māyā* of the *Māyī*, as the appearance of countless bubbles, ripples, waves, billows, in the ocean, separate-seeming yet inseparable from the ocean and from each other. There is no 'Another-consciousness.' 'Consciousness' is always only 'I-consciousness', 'My-consciousness'; never 'an-other-consciousness'. One Consciousness only animates all material forms. The methods, degrees, kinds, of manifestation are infinitely different in the pseudo-infinite forms. That One Consciousness appears as now sleeping, now waking, in this form, or as giving up that form; or as taking up another. It never can conceive itself as beginning or ceasing. Whatever the point of time, in the past, or in the future, a few seconds away, or trillions and quadrillions of years distant, at which it may try to conceive itself as ceasing or beginning—it is already present *before* and *beyond* that point of time, it *includes* that point.

(One here, one there, from among myriads, setteth
 Forth on the quest of Me, hidden in all !
 And, of the few that seek, fewer find Me ;
 For many do not seek Me steadfastly.
 But he who seeketh Me with heart resolved,
 He surely findeth Me, his inmost Self !)

Ye cannot serve God and Mammon both . . .
 Strait is the gate that leadeth unto Life,
 And few there be that find it . . .
 Few are chosen though many come (B.)

Ham Khudā khwāhī was ham ḥunyā-i-dūn ;
 In khayāl-ast o muhāl-ast o junūn ! (S.)

(That thou shouldst seek for God and this world
 too,
 Vain is the wish, futile insanity !)

Samsāra-vāsanā-yuktam
 mano baḍḍham vidur-budhāḥ ,
 Ṭad-éva vāsanā-tyaktam
 muktam iti abhi-dhī-yate. (U.)

(Bound by mundane desire, the mind is bound ;
 Freed from that same desire, Spirit is free.)

But,

" If ye attain to God and His kingdom of righteousness, all things else shall be added unto you " (B.)

of them gives to them What is the proof of the most utterly 'particularised' being? Again, nothing else than 'Am', 'I am'. For, obviously, nothing is more 'a-tom-ic', in-divis-ible, more immediately, positively, definitely other-repudiating, nothing more completely distinguishes itself off from all 'other', than 'I', my feel of 'personality,' here and now. Yet this so extremely compressed and limited 'here and now and thus' is infinitely expansible to 'anywhere and anywhen and also anyhow'. Whatever stretch of space or time or wealth of experiences I bring into my consciousness, my imagination, I envelop it all.

'Wasea' Rabbonā kulle shayīn ilmā...

Huā alā kulle shayīn muhīt

Huā mākum yanama kuntum. (Q)

(God's Consciousness envelopeth all things...

He doth pervade, include, all things and beings...

Wherever you may be, He is with you).

"Saith the Lord Do not I fill heaven and earth?" (B)

Anor-aniyān, mahato mahiyān (U)

(Greater than greatest, than smallest more small).

So-yam Ātmā... ēsha mē Ātmā... sarva-karmā,
sarva-kāmah, sarva-gandhah, sarva-rasah, sarva-gatah,
sarva-prān-āspadah, sarvato-mukhah, sarva-jñah,
sarvatah-pānu-pādah, sarv-ānana-shiro-grivah,

So, as religions say, man having emerged from God, wanders round and round for long before he thinks of going back again to "God who is our home," nay, who is our very Self. And knowledge, of many kinds, is needed before we can 'recognise' God, the God 'within'. Muhammad said: "He dieth not who giveth his life to learning. (H.) Ali said: "Philosophy is the lost sheep of the faithful: take it up again, even if from the infidel": (ERE. IX, 878).

Bé-ilm na tawān Khudā rā shinākht (S., SĀDĪ.)

(Without right learning God may not be known.)

That Vēdānta, crown of Vēda, 'final knowledge.' teaches this, is well known. But Christian Scriptures also say to men:

"Behold, the man has become as one of us." (B., Genesis) "I have said, ye are gods; and all of you are children of the most High." (B., Psalms)

"Is it not written in your laws, 'I said, ye are gods'? . . . I am the son of God. (B., John.) Behold, the Kingdom of God is within you. . . Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? . . . He is not far from every one of us. For in him we live and move and have our being. . . We are the offspring of God. . . The Spirit of God dwelleth in you . . . God is One. . . His Spirit in the inner man. . .

'I am an Indian'—my consciousness at once contracts to three hundred and eighty million 'I am Bhagavan Dās *alias* Abdul Qādir"—it shrinks immensely with amazing rapidity to a single lump of a few score pounds of bone and flesh and blood. 'I am a living being'—it suddenly expands infinitely to embrace all the universe, for there is not an atom of matter that is not alive, not pervaded by the Spirit, by Consciousness, by Life¹

'How it expands consciousness, broadens mind, enlarges heart, and promotes science and philosophy, if we look for similarity amidst diversity, and unity amidst similarity, and how it contracts outlook, narrows intelligence, warps sympathy, hinders appreciation of rational knowledge, if we look for differences rather than agreements, dividing features instead of unifying ones, may be illustrated thus A greatly esteemed Maulavi friend wrote to me that the 'essentials' of Islam are (a) Belief in (1) Allah, (2) Muhammad as His Chief Prophet, and other prophets, (3) *Qurān* as God's word, (4) Day of Judgment, (5) God's omniscience, and (b) Practice of (6) *salāt* or *namāz*, prayer, (7) *saum* or *rozū*, fasts, (8) *zakāt*, charity, (9) *hajj*, pilgrimage, (10) *jehād*, war in defence of Islām, (11) three festivals, Id-ul-fitr, Id-uz-zohā, Muharram. An equally worthy Pandit said, the 'essentials' of Hinduism are (a) Belief in (1) Paramēshvara, (2) Kṛṣṇa as His Chief *Avatāra*, and other *avatāras*, (3) *Vēda* as God's word, (4) Judgment of Yama, in accordance with the Laws of Karma and Re-incarnation, (5) omniscience and accuracy of Yama's recorder, Chiṭra-Gupta, and (b) Practice of (6) *sandhyā*, prayer, (7) *vratā-upā-vāsa*, fasting, especially on *ekādasī*, eleventh day of the lunar fortnight, (8) *dāna*, charity, (9) *tīrtha-yātrā*, pilgrimage, (10) *dharma-rakshā*, defence of Dharma, (11) a number of seasonal

Purport of the Arabic-Persian phrase, *ilm-i-sīnah*, 'knowledge which is passed from heart to heart,' 'doctrine of the heart,' is the same¹

and exoteric. The Tathā gaṭa has no such thing as the *closed fist*, baddha-mushti, of teachers who keep somethings back'. How is this to be reconciled with the widespread belief between sacred and profane, occult and unhidden, arcane and open secret, mystery and public knowledge? Buddha himself is also reported to have said, on another occasion, to his gathered disciples: 'As is one leaf to the rest of the total foliage of a tree, such is the little that I have told you to that which I have not told'. Reconciliation seems to be this. So far as *Meta*-physical Truth, Védānta, is concerned, (and it is the deepest and highest Truth), the secrecy, mystery, esotericism, lies only in the student's own inability to face and grasp it. But there are facts and laws of *super*-physical science and art, as there are of *physical* (and super-physical and physical shade off into each other), which are sought, by their knowers, to be *kept secret*, in order to avoid frightful misuse, witness, the two world-wars, and international excitement over closely guarded secrets of atom-bomb and hydrogen-bomb, now in the possession of U S A, British, and Russian scientists.

¹ In all times and climes, within the fold of every religion, "a group here, a group there, has gathered together with no other motive than that of gaining a greater hold on the spiritual life than was prevalent in the ordinary circles of the people. They seem to have lived on the borderland of an unusual ecstasy, experiencing extraordinary invasions of the Divine, hearing mystic sounds and seeing mystic visions." Among the Jews the 'Essenes' were such. They "were in possession of certain esoteric teachings, of which, those outside their ranks were uninformed." They laid "great stress on fellowship, amounting to a kind of communism", were

sense, of a *common I*, a single I, running through all bodies, and vitalising, energising, moving, controlling them all—is very puzzling and difficult to apprehend at first. Yet it is the very heart, the foundation, of all Religion. Like lesser but also difficult concepts, in all sciences, it becomes more

only to translate the *two sets of 'essentials'* into general terms to see the essential *unity* of them. Thus (*a*) *Belief* in (1) the Supreme Being, (2) highly advanced philanthropic souls, appearing from time to time in various races, as great teachers and lovers of mankind, (3) sacred scriptures, embodying knowledge which is of most help to mankind, (4) the law of cause and effect, of action and reaction, whereby sin unfailingly meets punishment, and virtue reward, in its own proper time, here or hereafter, (5) the omniscience and impartial justice of the Supreme Being; and (*b*) *Practice* of (6) prayer, (7) self-denying restraint of the senses, especially of the tongue, (8) discriminate charity, (9) pilgrimage and travel, in the spirit of reverence for all manifestations of God's Nature, (10) defence of the right against the wrong, (11) disciplines, festivals, public rejoicings and mournings for expression and promotion of fellow-feeling, (12) a rational Social Organisation, with a just division of the social labor, of the means of living, and of the necessaries, the comforts, and the luxuries or prizes of life, in accordance with the vocational temperaments of the different types of men, as indicated by the principles of psychology. Incidentally, Yama is the same as Al Qābīz, the Regulator, Judge, Punisher; and Chiṭra-gupta is Al-Muhsiy, the Recorder, Counter, Accountant, the 'Hidden Picture,' Lauh-i-Mahfūz, 'Preserved Tablet' of *Hāfiẓā*, Memory, Universal Mind, in which all is ever recorded and preserved, past, present, and future, Skt., Chiṭ or Chiṭi, 'gatherer'.

Sūfis have sung :

Bā wujūdē ke muzhda-e térā ' nahno aqrab ',
Safahe Masahaf paī likhā thā, mujhe mā'lūm
na thā

(Although the great glad news of Thee is writ
Plainly upon the *Qurān's* holy page :
' Nearer am I to thee than thy throat-vein '—
Mine eyes, blinded with selfishness, saw not !)

The well known *Kalemā* of faith, *Makā-vākyā*,
'great word', Logos-word, of Islām, is in terms of
the third person, *viz.*,

Lā ilāh il-Allāh, (Q)

(There is no god but God.)

also, by Alexander, one named Kalanos, (Kalyāna) is specifically mentioned by Greek writers. The word seems compounded of 'gymnast' and 'sophist', meaning *hatha-yogi* plus *rāja-yogi*, 'holy men' versed in various bodily as well as mental disciplines. Jesus is said to have lived and studied among the Essenes. Gr *gymnos* means 'naked', gymnastics are practised everywhere with a minimum of clothing. *Hatha-yogis* perform their special 'exercises' (which exercise every muscle of the body, and many of which have now been taken over by enterprising U. S Americans to their country), with only a tight loin-cloth. There are also *dīgambaras* and *paramahamsas* who discard even that.

Infinite, emotional and intellectual egoism is broken by emotional and intellectual altruism, and leaves behind Universalism. Some prefer to call this mood as Spiritual Consciousness, Super-mind, *yoga-jā-jñāna*, a state transcending ordinary Intellect, a peculiar state of exaltation and realisation, like the rising of the sun upon a world of darkness, though, bye and bye, the exalted glories of the many-hued splendours of the dawn settle down into the steady light of day, and are utilised for the world's work, are made 'integral for life', are 'integrated into the daily life', as some would say

In a sense, it is perfectly true that there is a special descent of the 'supra-mental' Divine, in such a condition; that God comes in, because egoism has gone out and made room, and the whole life is transformed. But it is also true that in the case of the 'lower knowledge' of any special science, the same process of 'yoga', though on a lower level, always takes place. Every discovery and invention is followed by an elation and exaltation in the inventor's and discoverer's being. 'Yoga is performed in all states and stages, on all planes of mind' - thus declares *Yoga-Sūtra-Bhāshya* (i.1). 'Change of Heart', from hard to soft, from sārāgya to vai-rāgya from krūra-tā to karunā, from *takabbūr* to *hilm*, from *ghariāh* to *mkisār*, from 'pride' to 'humility', from *mada* to *vinaya*,

Aham éva, Na Mat-to- (A) nyad—
 Iti buḍḍhyaḍḍhvam anjasā (Bh.)

(‘I, only I, Naught-Else-than-I at all’—
 This is the whole truth, understand it well)

Iti té jñānam ākhyātām
 guhyād guhya-taram Mayā ;
 Sarva-guhya-tamam bhūyah
 shrnu Mē paramam vachah ;
 ‘ Man-manā bhava, Maḍ-bhakṭo,
 Maḍ-yājī, Mām namas-kuru ;
 Mām-éva éshyasi, saṭyam tē
 prati-jānē, priy-osi Mē ,
 Sarva-dharmān pari-tyajya
 Mām Ekam sharanam vraja ;
 Aham tvām sarva-pāpēbhyo
 mokshayishyāmi ; mā shuchah ! (G.)

(The Ancient Wisdom have I taught to thee,
 Highest, most secret, sacred , yet again,
 Hear thou the secret-most of mysteries,
 The Final Word of all that ‘ I ’ can speak :
 Place thy whole mind in Me, the Supreme Self,
 And place Me, in thy mind, (and Nothing-Else) ;
 Love Me, the Universal I, al-one ;
 Perform all acts as sacrifice to Me,
 As Duty done for All-pervading Self ;
 Make salutation and submission, full,
 Unqualified, of all thy heart and will,

Such are the stages on the 'return-journey' of the soul 'back to God', on *Qaus-i-Urīy*, or *Safar-i-Abd*, as also, Sūfis call it, i.e., 'the journey of the servant' back to 'God-hood'. The opposite journey, of *Qaus-i-Nazīl*, is correspondingly called *Safar-i-Haq*, 'the journey of God' towards 'servant-hood'. Briefly, the hard in heart cannot see God because they cannot feel that Love which is an integral and essential aspect of God¹. Egoism hardens the heart, Altruism softens it. This mood of altruism, *bē-khudī*, *nīśvārtha-tā*, *nīrahamkāra*, comes to every soul, in its own good time, in the course of evolution².

¹ "Heraclitus says that the road up and the road down are the same . . But the road down, from the Creator to the creatures, is no business of ours, and, frankly, we know nothing about it. It is wisest to admit that we know neither how nor why there is a universe . . The upward path, the return to God may be traced" Dean Inge, (see p 27 *supra*) Some Sūfis have also expressed a similar view To those who do not feel the craving to know 'the road down', 'the how and why of the universe', there is nothing more to be said, of course But to others, who do, Scriptures give the answer, in broad outline Modern science tries to see the 'how', in terms of Evolution, Integration-and Dis integration Kṛṣṇa says in *Gītā* 'Self-realisation is completed only when the many is seen rooting back into the One, and also the One sprouting and branching into the Many'

² Other ways of expressing the truth are these Man must neither any longer feel separate from fellow-creatures, nor feel any separateness between different component parts of his being, he must become a whole,

"We speak wisdom among them that are perfect... To you is given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God, but to them (*the pōla*, the worldly-minded mass) it is not given... Therefore speak I

and cursed the latter, whom he called 'lawyers', *i.e.*, priests of the 'ritualistic law' "Woe unto you, lawyers!, for ye have taken away the *key of knowledge*, ye entered not in yourselves, and them that were entering in, ye hindered" (B., Luke, xi, 52). Buddha distinguished between true brāhmaṇas and false self-styled brāhmaṇas, (as indeed does *Manu-Smṛti*), gave out, to the public, some of the ancient secret wisdom; and thus aroused their hostility. Among Christians it is believed that "the Apocalypse gives the key to the divine Gnosis, which is the same in all ages, and superior to all faiths and philosophies—that *secret science* which is in reality secret only because it is hidden and locked in the inner nature of every man... and none but himself can turn the key" J M Pryse, *The Apocalypse Unsealed*, p. 5. Muhammad said "I am the city (of occult knowledge), and Ali is the gate into it" Among Muslim Sūfis, the tradition is that Ali first declared to the 'select', who were qualified and ready for it, this Ancient Wisdom, *Ilm-i-Rūhāni*, *Tasawwuf*, *Dīvya-jñāna*, 'Theosophy' proper, 'God-Wisdom', 'Soul-Science', 'Divine Knowledge', 'Spiritual Science'. H. P. Blavatsky's *Isis Unveiled* and *The Secret Doctrine* contain a vast amount of astonishing information and profound instruction on the whole subject, but they are not easy reading. This Occult Science, *Gupta-Vidyā*, *Ilm-i-Sinā*, Ancient Wisdom, had to be kept secret, for long, (and the danger is not over yet), because, as Jesus said "Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again *and rend you*"; (B., Matthew, vii '6) Such is the Law of Duality. God proposes, Satan opposes, and often disposes

Upanishats, and of the fall of the archangel Azaz-i-el into the state of Satan in Christian and Muslim legend¹. The consequences of such subtle error are

utterly dissolved. This ordeal must be endured. Each man is to himself absolutely the Way, the Truth, and the Life. But he is so only when he grasps his whole individuality firmly, and, by the force of his awakened spiritual will, recognises this individuality as not himself, but that thing which he has with pain created for his own use, and by means of which he purposes, as his growth slowly develops, to reach to the life beyond individuality" (*Light on the Path*, Theosophical Publishing House, Adyar, Madras). This opening out of the individual soul to and into the Universal Spirit, takes place, in each case, in its own good time. It cannot be forced. It begins from within. The soul grows as the flower grows, by its own vital force, and in accord with the cyclic laws of life. But the gardener can make the conditions which are most favourable to the growth. The old generation teaches the outlines of general geography to the younger generation. The actual visiting of any of the places of the earth has to be done by the grown-up. So has the message of Essential Religion to be given by the father to the child, and to remain in his mind as seed, to put forth root and shoot, branch, leaf, bud, blossom, and fruit, in its own good time. Then the 'heard' will become the 'seen'.

'Ai'zāz-i-El seems to mean 'the Supreme Greatness of God'. Majesty of Benevolence, inverted, becomes Pride of Malevolence. *Demon est Deus inversus*. There is another, and fine, conception of Satan in Hebrew theology. God commands his highest angel to 'act' as his reverse and adverse, as Satan, deliberately to test and strengthen and advance souls to salvation, through sin and suffering. When they fail to stand his tests and temptations, Satan rejoices—outwardly; inwardly he

Zāhidé gum-rāh kē main kis tarah ham-rāh hūn ;
Woh kahé Allāh hai, au main kahūn Allāh hūn ! (S.)

(He who is absent far away from God—
His heart can only say ‘God is’, somewhere ;
He who has found the Loved One in him-Self—
For him God is not He, nor Thou, but I.
How may I take for guide upon the Way
One who himself away from it doth stray ?
He is content to say “God is”, while I
Am desolate till I ‘God am’ can say !)

- This is only an expanded and more poetical version of the Samskr̥t verse :

Asti Brahma iti chēd vēda,
paroksham jñānam éva tat ,
Asmi Brahma iti chēd vēda,
aparoksham tat tu kath yaté (U)

(Who says only ‘God is’—he sees a screen ,
He who can say ‘God am’—he, sure, hath seen)

A gāthā of Zarathuṣṭra enjoins, in words which are equivalent to the Qurānic *Kalemā*
' Mazadāo sakħārē māristo ' (Z , Gāthā, 29 4)

(The Great God only is to be adored)

¹ Skt Mahā-dhāb, Mahā-dévah, ēk ala h, Kévala h, Sakṛt, saḍā, smarṭavyah, ‘the Great All-Wise Creator, the Great God, One and only, once for all, always, should be remembered, borne in mind’.

lest it be not understood, but turned away from, and so put to shame, by those not interested in and not ready for it; or, becoming cheap, be treated with levity and ridicule by the light-minded, in whom familiarity breeds contempt, or, worst of all, being disastrously misunderstood, breed arrogance instead of humility, hateful scorn instead of love. But conditions are different to-day. General level of intelligence is much higher. The opposite error, of sensual and proud egoism, is rampant. Corrective counsel is greatly needed and is perhaps more easily applicable. Argument has perhaps greater chance. Finally, there seems no other resource, no better alternative, for fighting the forces of 'darkness', whose chief weapon is viciously false-propaganda, than to spread 'light', right knowledge, by true propaganda. The very purpose of genuine religion is to guard man against such perversion, to lead him from small self to Great Self, from sinner to saint, from selfishness to selflessness, from Darkness to Light, from Untruth to Truth, from Evil to Good, from Satan to God, from *Khudi* to *Khudā*, from *Angra Mainyu* to *Spenṭa Mainyu*, from Matter to Spirit, from the Third person to the First, from *Jīv-Ātmā* to *Parama-Ātmā*, from Egoism to Altruistic Universalism.¹

¹ See fn., pp 59-60 *supra*. Buddhist *Sūtras* distinguish between *mahā-Ātmā* and *alp-Ātmā*, *kalyāṇ-Ātma* and

The Christian world knows this touchstone as Conscience, Intuition, Inner Monitor, the still small Voice of God, etc. Vaidika (now called Hindū, or, better, Sanātana or Ārya) Dharma refers to it as *A n t a r - y ā m i*, 'Inner Monitor, Watcher, Ruler, Endo-censor', and in such expressions as :

Hṛdayēna abhy-anu-jñātah ; Manah-pūtam samā-cha-rēt ; Svasya cha priyam Ātmanah , Paritosho antar-Ātmanah ; Svasya éva antara-Pūrushah ; Ātmanah ṭushtir-éva cha ; Kshētra-jñō na abhi-shankaté ; Yamo . . . dévo . . . hṛdi sthitah ; Tat sarvam ācharéd, yukto, yaṭra vā asya ramet manah (M.)

Saṭām hi sandēha-padeshu vasṭushu
Pramānam anṭah-karana-pra-vṛttayah.

(KĀLI-DĀSA, *Shakuntalā*)

(That which the 'Heart' permits; which the 'Soul' likes;
The 'God within' approves; the 'Mind' holds pure;
Th' 'Eternal Witness' sees as free from doubt,
Without misgiving, as straight-forward course;
'Which brings pure satisfaction to the 'Self';
Which the good mind rejoices in, while doing,
That is the course to follow, for good men. —
In matters wrapped in doubt, 'to do or not'—
The 'Inner Organ' of the good is guide)

Taylor-ékah pippalam svādu atti,
An-ashnan Anyo-abhi-chākashiti. (U)

(Two birds do nest upon the self-same tree;
One tastes the fruits—now bitter, and now sweet;
The other looketh on eternally)

Manas tu dvi-vidham proktam
Shuddham ch-ashuddham éva cha;
Ashuddham kāma-sakalpam,
Shuddham kāma-vivarjītam. (U.)

(The mind is of two kinds, one good, one bad;
Motived by selfish egoist desire,
Is the bad mind; inspired by altruism,
Free from all foul desires, is the good mind)

Ashā and Druj (Love and Hate, Ichchā or Rāga and Droha or Dvēsha), Armaītī and Tārmaitī (righteous activity and wrongful activity); Spenta-Mainyu and Angra-Mainyu, good or bright Spirit or Mind and bad or dark one; Vohu or Vahishto Mano and Achishto Mano, pure mind and impure mind, such are other words, in Zoroastrian Books, for the same pair of opposites, the two Ārvātā¹, given to us by Aburā Mazadā, the One

¹ Qurān mentions two angels, Hārūt and Mārūt Shri J. M Chatterji, *The Ethical Conceptions of the Gāthā*, suggests that these are the same as those known to Jews and pre-Christian Armenians as Horot and Morot, to Zoroastrians as Haurvātā and Ameretā, to Vaidikas as R̄tam and Amṛtam But the functions of the two are changed in the theology of each religion

That Higher Self, by ruling his small self,
No outer Yama can touch him at all.
Consult thine own heart, if thou art in doubt.)

"In every heart, there dwelleth a Sajin (Sage);
only man will not steadfastly believe it—therefore
hath the whole remained buried." (WANG-YANG-
MING)¹

(Nowhere can any cover up his sin.
Thy Self in thee, man!, knows what's true,
what's false.

Indeed, my friend!, thou scorn'st the nobler Self,
Thinking to hide the evil self in thee
From Self who witnessed it. Thus he who has
The Self as Master, let him walk with heed.)
(Bud.)²

Our knowledge is obviously of two sorts, (1) that derived from personal first-hand experience, a very small portion, but the most certain, and (2) that based on the testimony of others, far the larger portion. In Samskr̥ti philosophy, the two are called *pratyaksha* 'immediately before the senses', 'directly cognised,' and *śabda* or *āgama*, that

¹ Quoted from Confucian Laotsian writings of Wang-Yang-Ming, "the Chinese father of Japanese philosophy", by Jung, *Psychological Types*, 269.

² *Anguttara Nikāya* quoted, in translation, by Mrs. Rhys Davids, *Buddhism*, p. 71 (H U L, new edn. 1934).

" Very great is the need to be ever alertly and sleeplessly on guard against the awful danger of deliberately identifying ourselves with the lower, selfish, Evil mind, the baser nature, instead of with the higher, un-self-ish Good mind, the nobler nature, and the Universal Self. This *asmitā*, *ahamkāra*, *khudi*, ego-ism, the lower self, is indeed the element of Satan in man. It is the root of all lust and hate, all greed and pride of 'martial glory' and 'land-hunger', all adultery and robbery, all rape and murder, all sadism and masochism, all aggression, all self-assertion and other-suppression, all the most monstrous tyranny and oppression, all political and religious bigotry, fanaticism, persecution and cruellest torturing of dissentients and innocents. "Thy will, O Lord !, Thou Universal Self of All !, not mine !" — says the servant of God and Humanity, the servant of God in Man. " My will, O fool !, thou slave of mine !, not thine !" says the unwitting,

(There is not anything that's wholly good,
Nor anything that purely evil is ,
No course of action, no experience,
No happening that is wholly good or evil ;
The two, twins, both, pervade the world throughout)

As illustration of the relativity of good and evil, Maulānā Rūmī says :

Āb dar kashti, halāk-é kashti ast .
Āb lékin zér-e kashti, pushṭi ast.
(Water beneath the boat is life for it
Water within the boat would be its death)

-*iktisābī* or -*nazārī* or -*istidlālī* or *mashhārī*, (i.e., labored, argumentative, inferential, pedestrian)

All kinds of cognition, as also of desire and of action meet and merge in the Self. It is Self-luminous and Illuminator of all others. It senses It-Self, perceives It-Self, infers It-Self, intuits It-Self, desires and loves and lives It-Self, 'acts,' wills, maintains, asserts It-Self, and also all things-other-than-Self—eternally.

The well-known Sūfī exclamations, *An-al-Haq*, *Haq-tu-i*, *Qalab-ul-insān bait-ul-Rahmān*, are exact equivalents of the *Upanishat* utterances, *Aham Brahma*, *Tat tvam asi*, *Esha me Ātmā antar-hrdaye*, *Hrdi ayam tasmād hrdayam*; 'I am the True, the Real, Brahma; That thou art, too; the heart of man is the abode of God'; and of the Biblical declaration · "Ye are the temple of God." Khalīfā Ali declared :

Qalab-il-momin a'rsh-Illāhī

(The heart of him who knows, and so believes
With full assurance, is the throne of God.).

Ye are the living temple of God . Ye are Gods. (B)

Christ said "I and my Father are one" The *Old Testament* of the Jewish faith, especially the Book of Isaiah, also utters this same great *kalemā*, this *mahā-vākyā*, logion, ten times and more, viz.,

"In Him all things live and move and have their being . . . Do not I fill heaven and earth ? saith the Lord . . . The Spirit of God filleth all the earth, and that" (space or heaven) "which contains all things." (B.)

"He is the light that lighteth every man and everything" (B.)

"Great Heaven is intelligent, clear-seeing, and is with you in all your doings." (C, *Shi King.*)

Obviously, Consciousness, God's Consciousness, Man's Consciousness, the Self's Consciousness, includes, encompasses, illuminates all-things. 'To be' is 'to be known'; to know is to recognize and thereby impart existence. *Esse est percipi.* *Vidyate* (is known) is *vidyatē* (exists).

This Consciousness, this I, is behind every name and form and act.

Indram, Mit̄ram, Varunam, Agnīm, āhuh,
 Atho ḍivyah sah Suparṇo Garutmān ;
 Ekam Sad vīprāh bahu-dha vadanti,
 Agnīm, Yamam, Mātarishvānam, āhuh. (*Bg.-Vēda*)
 Ké-chit Karma vadanti Énam,
 Sva-bhāvam aparē janāḥ,
 Eka Kālam, parē Daivam,
 Pumsah Kāmam ut-āparē (*Bhāg*)
 Etam ékē vadanti Agnīm,
 Manum anyē, Prajā-patīm,

Zoroastrian scriptural utterances, with the same significance, are :

Ajēm ṭōī āish pouruyo fravoīvīdē ; vīspēng
anyēng manjēush spasyā ḍvaéshanghā
Na échīm tém anyém Yūshmaq vaédā
Tém né yasnāish ārmaitōish mīmaghjo,
Yé ānménī Mazadāo srāvī Ahuro.
Paré vāo vīspāish paré vaokhémā,

(Z., Gāthās, 44.11 ; 45.10 ; 34.5)

(Thee only do I know to be Supreme !
All others I dismiss from this my mind !
I know Him to be none except Thy-Self !
He who is known as Ahurā-Mazadā—
With duteous deeds we worship Him alone,
We know Thee as Supreme above all lives.)

That the teachings of Buddhism and Jainism, on this essential point, are identical with those of

Hiraṇmayéna Savitā rathéna
Dévo yāti bhuvanānī pashyan,

(Along the dark-blue skies Our God the Sun
Goes circling ever on His Car of Gold,
Ordaaining and compelling into Order
All beings, mortal and immortal in His Realm)

Consider here the wonders of the photographic pictures which are being radiated away along light-rays every moment to infinite distances, and the Law of Action and Reaction, on physical as well as moral plane More on the subject will be found in *The Science of Peace*

In Zoroastrian scriptures it is called Vahma, the same as Brahma of *Vēda-Upanishats*, in its all-comprehensive transcendent aspect; and Ahurā

that the *Same* Mystery is meant by all the different names

Yam Shairvāh sam-up āsaté Shiva iti,
 Brahma iti Vēdāntinah,
 Baudhbāh Buddha iti, pramāna-patavah
 Kartā iti Nayāyikāh,
 Arhan-itī-aṭha Jaina-shāsana ratnāh,
 Karm(a)-itī Mīmāṃsakāh
 So (A)�am vo vīdadhātu vāñchhitā-phalam
 Trailokya nātho Harih.
 Ké-chit Tām Tapa iti-āhuh,
 Tamah kē-chit, Jadam paré,
 Jīvānam, Māyām, Pradbhānam cha,
 Prakṛtim, Shakṭim apि Ajām,
 Vimarshah iti vā Shaivāh,
 Avidyām itaré janāh (*Dēvi Bhāgavata*)
 Ḗtam, Ātmā, Param Brahma,
 Saṭyam, iti-ādikāh, budhabh
 Kalpiṭah, vy-ava-hār-ārtham,
 Sanjñāh Tasya Mah-Ātmānah.
 Sanātānah, Purāṇānām ,
 Brahma, Vēdānta-vādinām ,
 Viṣṇāna-mātram, Viṣṇānā-
 Vidām, Ekānta-nirmalam ,
 Ātmā-(Ā)ṭmanah, tād-vidushām ,
 Nair-āṭmyam, tādṛsh-Āṭmanām ,
 Madhyam, Mādhyamikānām cha ,
 Sarvam, su-samā-clētasām ,
 Yah Shūnya-vādinām Shūnyo,
 Bhāsako Yo-(a)rka-téjasām ,
 Vakṭā, Mantā, Piṭā, Bhokṭā,
 Drashtā, Kartā, saḍa-iva Sah ;
 Purushah, Sāṅkhyā-ḍṛśtinām ,

wonderful am I !, Salutation unto Me !, How great is My glory ! " *Upanishats* reiterate, over and over again, *Aham Brahma asmi*, *Yas-tvam-asi* *So-(A)ham-asmī*,¹ *Idam sarvam asī*, *Abam éva Idam Sarvam*, I am the Infinite; What thou art that same am I , Thou art all This , I am all This'. I, the 'I', the Self, 'Principle of Consciousness', of Self-Existence, of 'I am', is the basis, cause, of all 'This' too, of all this Not-Self, Other-than-I, of all the Object-World, the whole World-Process

Ormazd Yasht, scripture of Zoroastrianism, declares, "My first name is *Ahmi*, (Samskr̥t, Asmi, 'I am'); the last is *Ahmi yad Ahmi*, I am that I am" *Vēdic Shatapatha Brāhmaṇa* has the same significant words, *Yo-ham asmi so-smi*, 'I am what I am', i.e., 'I am' ever the Changeless One, ever the same Self, at the end as at the beginning, for 'I have', i.e., the 'I' has, no beginning and no end *Bible* too says "I am that I am... I am hath sent me unto you" (*Exodus*). The words "I am hath sent me" are very note-worthy² The sayings of *Vēdānta* and *Tasawwuf* are so similar as

¹ *Kaushitaki Up* , i 6

² "Then spoke Zarathushṭra Tell me, O pure Ahura-Mazdā, the name which is thy greatest, best, fairest, most efficacious for prayer. Answered Ahura-Mazdā My first name is *Ahmi*, My twentieth name is *Ahmi Yaq Ahmi*", Haug's *Essays on the Pārsis*, 195 "In the *Hurmuzd-Yasht* of the Zend-avestā, Ahura-Mazdā

Akerane, (Skt Sarvam or Sāram Akāranam ?) 'Un-caused Cause of all causes', or 'Causeless Essence of all'¹ Some Sūfis make a similar distinction between Ahad and Allāh-ar-Rahmān-ar-Rahīm. The distinction between Impersonal Absolute Brahma, Motionless Spectator, and personalised ideating Brahmā, Active Creator, between Chit, Universal Principles of Consciousness, and chitta, individual mind, is the same

Spentā Maīnyūsraoṭū Mazadāo Ahuro yéhyā Vahmē
vohū frashī mananghā abyā khratu fro mā sāstū
vahishtā . . . At hoī Vahmēm démānégaro nīdāma
(Z., Gāthā, 45, 6, 8).

(Lord of benignant Spirit, Mazadā !,
Listen to this my prayer, and teach me well
What he should do who would with a pure mind
Seek earnestly to find the Peace of Brahm' !
. . . May we find Brahma in the House of Songs)

Liber , the Arabian Race, Adonis (same as Dionysus)^{1"}
(Ausonias, quoted by H. P. Blavatsky, *Isis Unveiled*,
ii. 302.)

" In Zrwanism the dualistic view of the world was superseded by setting up endless Time, (Zrwan, Arabic *dahr*) as the paramount principle, and identifying it with Fate, the outermost heavenly sphere, or the movement of the heavens Zrwanism came to be recognised under the Sassanid Yezdegerd II, 438-459 A.C., " Dr T. J. de Boer, *The History of Philosophy in Islam*, p. 8.

The originals of this translation are .

Aş Qaum ! ba hajj raşṭah ! kujā éd, kujā éd !
 Mā'shūq hamīn jā-st, bī-āyéd, bī-āyéd !
 Mā'shūqe-to, hamsāya-to, dīwār ba diwār ,
 Dar bādiyah sar-gashtah cherā éd, cherā éd !
 Ānān ke ṭalab gār-i-Khudā éd, Khudā éd !
 Hājat ba ṭalab n-ist, shumā éd, shumā-éd !
 Chīzé ke na gardīd gum az bahre che joyéd ?
 Kas ghair-i-shumā n-ist, kujā éd, kujā éd !

(SHAMS TABREZ)

Shivam Āṭmanī pashyanti,
 praṭīmāsu na yogināh ,
 Āṭma-sṭham yé na pashyanti,
 ṭīrṭhē mārganti tē Shivam !

(*Shivā Purāna*)

Sarvasya-iva janasy-āsyā
 Vishnuh abhi-antarē sthitāḥ ;
 Tam pari-tyajya té yānti
 bahir-Vishnum nar-āḍhamāḥ.

(*Yoga Vāsiṣṭha*, 5. 34. 26)

(The ' All-pervading ' Self, ' Who bindeth all ',
 ' Knits them together ', bides in every heart—
 Who turn from Hīm, the Innost Deity,
 Seeking outside, their eyes are yet thick-veiled)

Sarva-bhūṭeśhu yah pashyed
 Bhagavad-bhāvam Āṭmanah,

Chief, Victor, Ruler, Father of All Beings
That ever have been, are, and are to be."

(*Kevatta-Sutta, Digha-Nikaya, BB., 115*)

Yehovah (Jehovah, Yahveh) is the Hebrew word; Hayy and Yahyā are Arabic for the same, O-hau, O-hau-hau, are *Sāma-Vēdu*'s names for it; J(I)āo is Phoenician. All these names are formed of vowel sounds aspirated; breathings of man, each of which 'names' and invokes God. 'So-(a)ham,' '(a)ham-Sah', 'That am I', 'I am That', is a-japā Gāyatrī, 'unspoken perpetual prayer', of and by each and every living being. It is un-uttered, yet is uttered in and by every ingoing and outgoing breath; for none can live at all without perpetual support from Him, *Anima Mundi*, Soul of the World, Life-Breath of the Universe¹

¹ It is noteworthy that there are some 'natural' sound-names of the Supreme. First, there is the inner sound of AUM (pronounced Om), like the humming of bees, or the sound heard when the ears are tightly closed. With a little practice, this sound can be heard, within the head, between the ears as it were, even without closing the ears. It is the anāhaṭa nāda, 'un-struck or un-uttered sound', mentioned in connection with yoga-ways. Gradations of it are mentioned in *Upanishads* and Yoga books. "The Word was with God and the word was God," says the English *Bible*. Probably the original Hebrew word means 'sound', rather than 'word'. Ākasha, (which means Space, as well as the primal 'element' filling Space), whose 'attribute' or 'quality' is 'sound' (as 'touch' is of 'air', 'taste' of

(None Other do I know than Thee.)

Mazadāo sakharé māristo (Z , Gāthā)

(Mazadā, the One Alone, we bear in mind)

That only is True, Real, Haq, Sat, Sure, Certain, which holds true and abides the same in all three times, past, present, future, and in all three spaces, behind, here, before, unchangingly. That which is not, but is imagined or said to be, as if it is, that is Unreal That which at one time is and at another is not, or was not and now is, or is and will not be—is half-true and half-false That which always is—such alone is True, Real, wholly. Naught-Else than I is such. I is I, in all times, all spaces, all conditions

“ I am (is) the Lord, I change(s) not

(B , Malachi 3 6)

“ Tao is unchanging, hath no name ”

(Tao-te-king , BB , The Texts of Tao-ism, pt I, p 74.)

Māsa-abda-yuga-kalpēshu

gat(a)-āgāmishu an-ékadhbā,

Na udéti, na astam éti éshā

Samvid ékā Svayam-prabhā

(Pancha-dashī, 1 7.)

Samvido vyabhichāras-tu

na éva drshto (a)sti karhi-chit ,

Yadī drshtah tadā drashtā

shishtah Samvid-vapuh svayam

(Devi-Bhāg III. xxxii)

194 UN-UTTERED EVER-UTTERED LITANY [CH II]

Hsuen (the Mysterious) Jainism, like Buddhism, gives ultimately the same name, Param-Ātmā, i.e., 'the Supreme Self', to the Ultimate Mystery, as Vaidika Dharma does. Thus, in a fine prayer-hymn, which is in common use among Jainas, we read.

Yah dūrshana-jñāna-sukha-sva-bhāvah,
 Samasta-samsāra-vikāra-bāhyah,
 Samādhī-gamyah *Param-Ātma-sanjñah*,
 Sa Déva-dévo hrdayé mam-āstām
 Sarvam nirā-kṛtya vi-kalpa-jālam,
 Samsāra-kāntāra-nipāta-hétum,
 Vivikṭam Ātmānam av-ēksha-māno,
 Nīliyasé tvam *Param-Ātma* tattvē.
 Yaḥ *Param-Ātmā*-(A)mīta-gati-vandyah,
 Sarva-vi-vikṭo, bhrsham an-avadyah,
 Shashvad-dhyāṭo manasī, labbhantē
 Mukti-nikētam vibhava-varam té.
 (J , AMITA-GATI, *Sāmāyika-pāṭha*.)

(May He abide always within my heart,
 'The Supreme Self', the One God of all gods,
 Transcending all 'this'-world's ephemera,
 By deepest meditation reachable!
 They who have passed beyond all arguments
 And doubts and false attachments of this world,
 They only can behold in purity
 'The Supreme Self', and in It merge themselves.

N-Ātmā jajāna na marishyati na édhaté (a)sau. (*Bh*)

(The Self is never born nor dies nor grows.)

Lam yalid wa lam yulad ..

Kullu shayin hālikun illā Wajh. Q)

(Neither begetter nor begotten He ..

All things are mortal but the Face of God,

His Self, the primal moveless Cause of all.)

Yad-aparināmī tad-akāranam. (*Nyāya maxim*)

(What changes never, never has a cause.)

" What is incorruptible must also be ungenerable "

(*Western Scholastic philosophical maxim*)

(The mullā—learned in the Scripture-word

But not its sense—says Ahmad went to Heaven;

But Sarmad says that Heaven came into Ahmad !)

Compare the following

" We sit as in a boundless phantasmagoria and dream-grotto , boundless, for the faintest star, the remotest century, lies not even nearer the verge thereof Him, the Unslumbering, whose work both Dream and Dreamer are, we see not, .. and sleep deepest while fancying ourselves most awake . The Where and When," [dēsha and kāla], "so mysteriously inseparable from all our thoughts, are but superficial adhesions The Seer may discern them where they mount up out of the celestial Everywhere and Forever Have not all nations conceived their God as Omnipresent and Eternal , as existing in a Universal Here and Everlasting Now ? Space is but a mode of our human sense , so likewise Time. There is no Space and no Time We are . like sparkles floating in the Ether of Deity . This so solid seeming world is but an air-image, our *Me* the *only reality*, and Nature . the phantasy of our Dream" Carlyle, *Sartor Resartus*, Bk I, ch viii

Some call It Force, and some call it God.

Some call It th' Unknowable, some call it God.¹

Whatever the name each person, who has attained to the stage of 'thinking', may give to it, the Ultimate Mystery has to be recognised. But its nearest, dearest, fullest, greatest, and withal most intelligible and intimately familiar name is 'I', the Self in Me and in All alike.

So-(A)ham asm-ity-agré vyāharaṇi , tato
 (A)ham-namā abhavat , ṭasmād-apि ētarhi
 āmantriṭo (A)ham ayam iṭi éva agre uktvā²
 ṭadā anyan-nāma brūtē, yad asya bhavati (U)

('I am' is what He uttered first of all,
 Therefore his principal, best, and most true
 Name is the 'I'; and so we see that when
 A person is thus questioned. 'Who are you?';
 He first of all says. 'I am', then he adds
 Whate'er his special name is—'So-and-so')

¹ "O You who are!, Ecclesiastes calls you Omnipotence, the Maccabees call you Creator, the Epistle to the Ephesians calls you Liberty, Baruch calls you Immensity; the Psalms call you Wisdom and Truth, St. John calls you Light, the Book of Kings, calls you Lord, Exodus calls you Providence, Leviticus, Holiness, Esdras, Justice, Creation calls you God, Man calls you Father, but Solomon calls you Mercy, and that is the Fairest of all Your Names" Victor Hugo, *Les Misérables*, Bk. I, ch. v. Incidentally, 'God' seems to be the same word as Persian 'Khudā', and, possibly, the latter is related to Skt. 'Sva ḍhā', 'Self-maintainer'.

The Self, wishing the wish to hear, became
The ear ; to see, the eye , to smell, the nose . . .)

Na tatra vāg-gachchhati, as chakshuh, no mano,
na vidmo, na vijānimo, yathā Etad anu-shishyād ;
anyad-éva Tad vidiṭad atha avidiṭad adhi. (U).

(Speech reaches not the Self, nor eye, nor mind ;
We know not how we may describe our-Self ,
It is not known, nor is it yet unknown,
The Knower, nor unknown nor known can be.)

Na Abam manyé su véda iti,
No na véda iti véda cha ;
Yo nah Tad véda Tad véda,
No na véda iti véda cha.
Yasya amatam tasya matam,
Matam yasya na véda sah ;
Avijñātam vijñatām,
Vijñātam avijñatām. (U.)

(Who thinks he knows It, he does know It not ;
While he who thinks he knows It not, knows It.
We do not know whether we know or not ,
We know the Self ; and yet what do we know !
Then do we know it not ? . But, sure, we know !
How can we say we do not know our-Self !
Indeed It is the only Thing we know
Most positive, most doubtless, here and now !)

Iyam vi-srṣhtur yata-ā-babhilva,
Yadi vā dadhē, yadi vā na,

which we have built up from experiencing our effect upon the world around and its effect upon us Ryochi is 'al-one being' or 'al-one knowing', as *summum bonum*, 'bliss'; it is the light which pervades the world; it is immortal all-knowing Good. It is the mediator and reconciler of 'the pair of opposites', namely, R₁ and K₁, world-soul and world-matter respectively, attributes, both, of God, who is their union. Similarly the human soul embraces both R₁ and K₁. As the essence of the world, God enfoldeth the world, but at the same time, He is also in our midst and even in our own bodies" (NAKAE TAJU).¹

Sūfīs say .

Kufr o dīn har do dar raha-t poyān,
Wahdahū lā sharik-ilah goyān. (S)

¹ Nakae Taju, the 'Sage of Omi' is a "distinguished Japanese philosopher of the seventeenth century. He belonged to the Chu-Hi school of philosophy which had migrated from China". The above account of his view is abridged from C. G. Jung, *Psychological Types*, pp 268-269, whose description is based upon Tetsujiro Inouye, *Japanese Philosophy*, (1913). The 'bliss' of Ryochi is the same as the *ananda* of Brahma, *lazzat-ul-ilāhiyah*, beatitude, 'persona', 'personality', is the same as individualised *puruṣha*, *īv-ātmā*, *shakhs*. *Yoga-sūtra*, II-3, explains how this 'persona' is concreted, conglomerated, densified, hardened, upon the basis of *asmitā*, egoism, by the growths of *rāga*, *dveṣha*, *abhinivēṣha*, likes, dislikes, and stubborn complexes.

or beside It, or except It, nothing *mā-siwa-Allāh*, *ghair-as-Khudā*, Ātmanah iṭarat, Brahmanah anyat, ' other than God,' 'else than Self'. It is *Majmua'-i-ziddain*, Sarva-viruddha-dharm-āshrayah, 'locus, focus, reservoir, of all contradictions, all opposites'.

Ekam éva Advitīyam. (U.)

(One only, always secondless, am I.)

Lā ilāh il-Allāh. (Q.)

(There is no god in truth other than God)

Lā ilāhā illā Anā (Q.)

(There is no God other than *I* my-Self.)

Aham éva, na maṭ-to-(a)nyad,
iṭi buddhyaddhvam anjasā. (Bhāg)

(Know well—There is No-Other-than-My-Self.)

"I am the Lord, and there is none Else ; There is no God beside me . . I am the first and I am the last : and beside me there is no God." (B. Isaiah.)

"To Ahura Mazadā, the Secondless . . I sing the song of Glory." (Z., Ahunavad Gāthā, xxxvii. 3.)

"There is One alone and there is not a second ; yea, He hath neither child nor brother ; yet is there no end of all His labor " · (i.e , the World-Process is unending). (B., Eccles., iv.)

as are the breaths in the nostrils, so many are the ways to God". But the Goal is ever the Self-same.

Ruchinām vai-chitryād
rju-kutila-nānā-patha-jushām
Nṛnām Eko gamyah
Tvam asi payasām arnava iva.

(*Shiva-Mahima-stuti*)

(Thou the One Goal of all the many paths
Some easy, straight, some winding, difficult,
Men follow as they variously incline—
As of the countless streams the one vast sea!)

Yé api anya-dévatā-bhaktāḥ
yajanté shraddhayā anvitāḥ,
Té-(a)pi Mām éva, Kaunteya !,
yajanti a-vidhi-pūrvakam (G)

(Who worship other gods with heart of faith,
They too adore but Me behind those forms,
Unknowing yet of the one direct way.)¹

¹ *Quot homines tot dei* is a Latin saying, 'so many men, so many gods'. One meaning of the Indian popular saying, that there are thirty-three crore (three hundred and thirty million) gods is the same, one god for each person. Interpret such sayings as you like, flippantly, sceptically, sarcastically, uncharitably, or seriously, reverently, philosophically, charitably: either way it comes to this, ultimately—that, since Man and God are one in Essence, (by any and every philosophical or scientific view, Materialist or Spiritual), therefore 'God makes Man in His own image', and, also, 'Man makes God in His own image'; e, every man's *ideal*,

" My name is He who hath shaped everything "
 (Z., Ahura-Mazda Yasht, 14)

At hoi dāmām, thvahmī ādām, Ahurā !
 (Z , Gāthā, 48 7)

(Ahura ! the Beginning Thou, and End !)

All these great words describe, fittingly, the I,
 the Self, the Principle of Consciousness Al(I)-One,
 and Nothing Else

'I' is the *Ahad*, of which nothing can be pre-dicated, not even existence or non-existence, *Zāt-i-sādij*, *Zāt-i-mutlaq*, *Mungata'-ul-ishārat*, *Lā-ba-shart-i-shay*, Shuddha, Nir-guna, Nir-vishésha, Nir-ava-chchhina, the Ab-solute, Pure Being (same as Pure No-Thing), Attribute-less, Un-particularised, Un-conditioned

N-Āsad-āsīn-no-Sad-āsīt. (*Rg Vēda*).

(Neither Non-being was, nor Being then)

Na San, na ch-Āsan, na tathā, na ch-ānyathā,
 Na jāyaté, vyéti, na cha avahiyaté,
 Na vardhaté, n-āpi vishuddhyaté punah,
 Vishuddhyaté Tat Param-ārṭha-lakshanam.

(Bu., ASANGA.)

A-nirodham, an-utpādam,
 an-uchchhédam, a-shāshvatam,
 An-ék-ārtham, a-nān-ārtham,
 an-āgamam, a-nirgamam,

(Whatever shows forth glory, splendour, might—
Know, from My tētas-aspect is it born)

Tān akṛtsna-vīdo mandān
kr̄ṣna-vīṭ na vīchālāyēt ,
Na buḍḍhi-bhédam janayēd
ajñānam karma-sanginām (G)

(Let not the man, who knoweth all, disturb
The slower minds of those who know not all;
Do not confuse child-minds with abstract
thoughts ;

They must continue for some more time yet
To learn from pious rituals and good works.)

they should be entreated to ponder the question " Has the *same* God created *all* the races of men, past and present, or have different Gods done so ? If the same, then must not the same truths about Himself, and the same commands for mutual goodwill and peace among men, be embodied in all religions, past and present, with only as much surface-difference as there is between complexions and clothings and languages of these different races, and climatic and other natural conditions of different countries ?

It is true, there are some sects, in *all* religions, which are firmly convinced that God deliberately creates some souls (belonging to those sects) to enjoy heaven eternally, and other souls (belonging to all other sects) to suffer hell perpetually. Unhappily this stage of extreme self-righteousness has to be passed through, it seems, by every soul, at some time or other, in the course of its eonic evolution. One can only very gently and humbly invite such to reflect whether God, whom they believe to be All-Merciful, can possibly be so cruel.

Or though unspeakable It perhaps is ;
 Or It both is not and unspeakable ;
 Or, seventhly, it may be that It is
 And is not and unspeakable also !)

A-pra-hīnam, A-sam-prīptam,
 An-uch-chhīnnam, A-shāshvatam.
 A-nī-rūḍḍham, An-uṭ-pādam,
 Eṭan Nir-vānam uchyatē.
 Astī, n-āstī, astī-n-āstī-ītī,
 N-astī-n-āstī-ītī wā punah,
 Chala-sṭhīr-obhay-ā-bhāvaih
 Ā-vṛṇoṭī éva bāliṣhāḥ
 Kotyash-chaṭasrah ētāḥ tu,
 Grahaīḥ yāsām sadā-vṛṭāḥ,
 Bhagavān ābhīr-a-spṛṣhto
 Drshto yēna sa sarva-dṛk.

(*Bu , NĀGĀRJUNA, Mādhy. Kā.*)

('Tis never lost , nor is it ever found ;
 It never ends ; nor is it ever-lasting ,
 'Tis ne'er suppressed , nor is it ever born ;
 Such is the state that is Nir-vāna called.
 Is , is not ; is and is not both at once ;
 Is not, is not at all ; these are the four
 Alternatives that wrap all for child-minds.
 He who has seen the Lord beyond them all,
 He has seen All ; he has touched Omnicience.)

204 BOTH GOOD AND EVIL COME FROM GOD [CH. II]

(The wise saw Good and Evil both as God's;
And so they drew their hearts away from both,
And fixed them on the Master of the Two.)

Finally, *Qurān* itself emphatically declares the whole truth

Al khairo wa-s-sharro min Allāhi-tā'la. (Q)
(Both Good and Evil come from the High
God.)

One of the Qurānic names of God is Al-Muzil, the Misleader and Tempter and Tester, so Māyi, the 'Illusion-maker,' in *Vēda-Upanishats*. The implication of the Lords' Prayer, "Lead us not into temptation", is the same, i.e., God does lead into temptation, those who do not pray thus. Other texts of *Bible* make it clear that God tempts, or allows to be tempted, in order to try and test.

And the full significance of the *Gītā*-verse, quoted above, is that while radiant and magnificent forms of life and existence manifest the Tējas or *Jalākī* aspect of the Supreme Self, other forms express others of His infinite aspects.

Vishtabhyā Aham Idam krtsnam
Ek-āmshēna sthīrō jagat (G)

(The whole of all this restless moving world
Is but a little part of Me; the rest
Of Me is ever in eternal rest.)

That art appearing perpetually,
In every place within this wheeling world,
Yet cannot be encompassed by my eyes !)

"The Tao cannot be heard ; what can be heard
Is not the Tao ; the Tao cannot be seen ;"
What can be seen is not the Tao at all.
By words the Tao may not be well expressed ,
What can be thus expressed is not the Tao.
The Formless gives to every form that form ;
Can we know It as else than Void of Form ?
The Nameless gives to every name that name ,
It-Self may not be named but by all names."

(BB., 87 ; SBE., vol. 40, p. 69.)

"The Tao is not exhausted by the greatest ,
Nor is It ever absent from the least ,
In all things is It found, complete, diffused .
How wide Its universal comprehension !
How utter Its unfathomableness !
Embodiment of Its great attributes ,
In Righteousness and in Beneficence ,
Is but a small result of Its pervasion ,
Its subtle working in the heart of man ,
Only the perfect man knows this for sure ,
And only such can hold charge of the world .

(BB. p. 93, 'The Texts of Taoism' ;
Kwang Tse, S.B.E. vol. 39, p. 342)

Pratyaksham Khé Mahā-Shūnyé

(A)sankhy-(a-)āndāni bhramānti hi

(Yoga Vāsishtha)

(Substratum of all Attributes is One,
Al-one, Eternal, Void of Attributes ;
Of these, major and minor, count is not.
The One Possessor of all Attributes
Is yet devoid of all these Attributes ;
This may we see e'en with the eyes of flesh
Does not this Infinite expanse of Heaven,
Vast Emptiness of Space, (Plenum of Self), .
Hold all these countless ever-whirling orbs,
'Eggs of the Infinite', untouched by them ?)

While warning the wise man not to disturb the simple mind, to the advanced and thoughtful soul capable of hearing and holding wisdom, Krshṇa says clearly :

Maṭ-tah para-ṭaram n-ānyat
kin-chid asti, Dhanan-jaya !

'Mayi sarvam idam pr-oṭam
sūṭre mani-ganā iva.

Yé cha-iva sāttvikāḥ bhāvāḥ,
rājasāḥ, tāmasāsh-cha yé,

Maṭ-tah év-éṣṭi tān viddhi ;
na tu Aham téshu, té Mayi.

Sukham, duhkham, bhavah, bhāvah,
Bhayam, ch-ābhayam éva cha,

Since every name and every work is Thine !
One art Thou, countless yet Thy Multitude !
All forms are Thine through which Thou makest
Play ;

All merge back into Thee at End of Day!)

A-nir-vachanīyam (Vēdānta)

(This Self indeed is indescribable
In words, though indefeasibly Self-known.)

Yan na dukhéna sam-bhinnam,
Na cha grastam an-antarā,
Abhi-lāsh-opanītam cha,
Tat padam Svah-pad-āspadam.

(KUMĀRILA, *Mūnāmsā-Shloka-Vārtika*.)

(That which is not alloyed ever with pain,
Nor liable to come to sudden end,
And has been brought to us by our desire,
That is the state known by the name of Svah,
True Heav'n where reigns the Supreme Self alone.)

Whom else can all these 'descriptions' which are 'non-descriptions', proclamations of inability to describe, fit, except the Self? This so indescribable 'I' cannot be proved by anything else. The 'I' proves whatever else is provable. Nobody saw the I' being born or dying. *Bodies* are seen being born and dying, never an 'I,' the 'I'. 'I' only can see 'I' being born or dying, Consciousness only can

From the transcendental standpoint, each term of every pair of opposites is necessary to throw the other into relief, to bring it into manifest existence, by contrast, and also to neutralise it, ultimately. Good cannot possibly *ex-ist* without contrasting evil, and *vice versa*. Hence to abolish evil, we must abolish good also, neither love nor hate is to be assigned to the Absolute Self, which includes both *equally*.

Pari-nati saba jīvana kī
 tīna bhānti baranī;
 Ėka pāpa, ēka punya,
 ēka rāga-haranī
 Jā mén shubha ashubha andha,
 doū kara karma-bandha,
 Vīta-rāga-pari-nati hī
 bhava-samudra taranī
 Tyāgu shubha-kriyā-kalāpa,
 karu mata kadā cha pāpa,
 Shubha mén na magna hoi
 Shuddha-tā bisaranī
 Yāvata shuddh-opa-yoga
 pāvata nāhīn mano-ga,
 Tāvata hī karana yoga
 kahī punya-karanī
 Uncha nīcha dashā dhār,
 chita-pramāda ko bidār.

of time, with all the intervening period, *within* its vast embrace, and reaches infinitely farther still, beyond, on both sides. Truly is this Self-consciousness Unique, vaster than the vastest, smaller than the smallest.

Universal Being, *Hasti-i-mutlaq*, *Satṭā-sāmanya*, is the logician's *summum genus*, *jīns-i-ā'lā*, *parā-jāṭi*. At the other end are the smallest particles, atoms, electrons, protons, ions, super-atoms, *paramāṇus*, or whatever else they may be called, (—and neither the largest nor the smallest can ever be reached in any given time and space, the infinitesimal is also infinite—), a *nū*, *zarra*, the *summum individuum* or *parvum* or *parulūm* or *minutum individuum*, (*infima species*), *tashakkhus-i-adnā*, *para-vishēsha*. This I is both Universal Being and, ultimately, finally, particular *in-dīvis-ible* *In-divid-ual* Being. It is Infinite as well as Infinitesimal. What is the proof of Universal Being, of "Is," *est, hast, aṣṭi*? Is it not I, My Consciousness, 'Am'? Am I not present everywhere and everywhen? Whatever significance, smallest or vastest, can be assigned to these two words, is already *within* My Consciousness. 'Am' is the proof of 'Is'; not 'Is' of 'Am'. The only Being that we know, for certain, without a possibility of doubt, is My Being, 'Am', all other beings, all other existences, have only such and so much existence as my Consciousness

The *Bible* of Judaism and Christianity also clearly indicates that all pairs of opposites, including the pair of Good and Evil, are in the One

" Shall evil befall a city, and the Lord hath not done it ? " (*B.*, Amos.) " I form the light and create darkness ; I make peace and create evil, I am the Lord that doeth all these things . . . I have created the smith that bloweth the fire of coals, and bringeth forth a weapon for his work ; and I have created the waster to destroy " (*B.*, Isaiah)

We have seen before, that in Vaidika Dharma (now, in its corrupted form, in current practice, known as 'Hinduism'—and which living religion today is free from unfortunate degenerations, caused by the evil ingrained in human nature together with the good ?), God is Destroyer as Rudra, Tempter and Tester as Māyā-vī, Punisher and Corrector as Yama, and so on ; that Islam recognises Him as Al-Qahhār, Al-Jabbār, Al-Muzil, Al-Mumīt, i.e. Wrathful, Oppressor, Misleader and Tester, Death-Causer of virtuous and sinful alike; and so forth.

Mystery, perplexity, anguish of heart torn between faith and doubt, faith in the ultimate Beneficence of the Supreme, doubt created by the glaring fact of endless misery of all degrees, within each self and all around—this conflict vanishes as soon as we realise that 'I' is *the* 'I'; that 'I am' means '*the*

sarvat - okshī - shiro-mukhah, sarvatah - shruti - mān,
 sarva-bhūta-sthah, sarv-bhūta-guhā-shayah, sarva-
 bhūta-damanah, sarva-bhūt-ādhi-vāsah, sarva-bhūt-
 āntar-Ātmā, sarva-bhṛt, sarva-vyāpī, sarv-ājivah,
 sarva-samsthah, sarva-srk, sarva-smrit, sarva-harah,
 sarv-ādhi-shthānah, sarv-ānu-syūtah, sarv-ānu-bhūh,
 sarv-āntarah, sarv-āparah, sarv-āshī, sarv-éshvarah,
 sarv-Āham-mānī, sarv-ābhī-dhānah Abam-iti, sarva-
 mayah (*Upanishats*)

(This Self, My-Self, does *all* acts that are done ;
 Feels *all* desires that are felt anywhere ,
 Smells, tastes, sees, hears, and touches *everything* ;
All heads, eyes, ears, arms, legs, mouths, hands,
 and feet,
 Are Mine, My Self's, *the* Self's , It dwells in all ,
 Creates pervades, preserves, and wipes out all ,
 All life of every living thing is drawn
 From Its infinite life , all death—Its sleep ,
 Whoever knows, and whatsoe'er he knows,
 Is known by It, by Me, by the One Self ,
 It is the Lord of All , Its Final Name
 Is 'I', the Universal Name of All,
 That *every* living ' one ' gives to ' one-Self ')

I say, 'I am a human being', I become identified
 in interest and sympathy with the whole of the
 human race, some two thousand million individuals.

Without Self, without the Principle of Consciousness, the Universe disappears, and science vanishes. All things else may be doubted, Self cannot be. Worst doubter cannot doubt himself. Scientists have therefore grown wise, and have receded from the gush and rush of materialistic turbulence, natural to the first flush of the growth of science. The faith of great scientists of the day has been already mentioned, that this world is a world governed by Spirit and not by Matter, unless, indeed, we endow Matter with all the qualities of Spirit, and then it means only that we have ex-changed the connotations of the two words; (see pp. 22 *et seq.*). And this Supreme Spirit is in Me, is I.

. As Christ says :

" Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me . . . He that has seen Me has seen the Father . . . If ye had known Me ye should have known my Father also." '(B)

And as Muhammad says also :

Anā Ahmad būlā mīm. (H.)

Man rā anī, rā al Haqqa (H)

Man a'rafa nafsahū faqad a'rafa Rabbahū (H) .

, Nas-ullāhā fa'ansāhum anfusahum. (Q.)

(Ahmad am I, minus the letter ' m ',

Which means, ' I am Ahad, the One alone '

He who hath seen Me surely hath seen God.

